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MAYFAIR AND BELGRAVIA

MAYFAIR AND BELGRAVIA.

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THE BATHING SPRING, HYDE PARK, 1802.

MAYFAIR
AND
BELGRAVIA:

BEING AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE PARISH OF ST. GEORGE, HANOVER SQUARE.

BY

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With Numerous Illustrations.

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PREFACE.

IT is thought that this volume should not be allowed to go forth without a word or two of explanation regarding the treatment and arrangement of the materials of which it is composed. In his two recent books upon London districts the writer has attempted to treat his subject in a readable and interesting manner, with a due sense of the first necessity of accuracy. That plan has been adopted in the present instance.

The civil parish of St. George, Hanover Square, however, is so much crowded with matters of historical moment and interesting associations, that it has been found difficult to do justice to all in a volume of this size. The chapter on "Literary and other Celebrities" is a remarkable instance.

In that case the number of celebrated persons to be mentioned has been found too large to allow of anything more than the barest record of the facts.

The author wishes to thank the many friends who have given their kind assistance in the compilation of this volume, and he desires to express his special obligations to two personal

friends, Messrs. A. Bernard Sykes and Charles G. Harper, for their valuable help in providing some of the sketches which enrich the book, and felicitously and vividly depict many of the localities to which reference has been made in the text. He wishes also to acknowledge, with many thanks, the kindness of the Proprietors of the *Pall Mall Budget*, in allowing him the use of Mr. Harper's sketches.

It may be added that sixteen of the illustrations have been produced by the London Stereoscopic and Photographic Company, Limited, in their Photomezzotype Process, and some photographs taken by that Company have been used as a basis for certain of the other sketches in the book.

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MAYFAIR AND BELGRAVIA.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory Account.—The Manor of Eia.—The Manor of Neyte, or Neat.—The Neat Gardens.—Market Gardens.—Eybery, or Ebury Farm.—Reminiscences of Ebury Farm and the vicinity.

MAYFAIR AND BELGRAVIA.

OLD maps, as well as contemporary accounts, enable us to picture to ourselves, with considerable clearness, the physical character and appearance of these districts before buildings covered the surface of the ground. Two centuries ago the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, did not exist, the area it was afterwards to occupy lying within the limits of the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Agas's Map of London, published probably just about three centuries ago (1591), does not extend far enough west to take in this district; probably the reason of this is that the district at that time had not enough houses and was not of sufficient importance to be included in a map of London. Westminster Palace and Abbey, and the various buildings in the vicinity, of course are shown, but at the extreme left-hand (west) margin of the map there is an evident thinning away of houses, and it is clear that the open fields were at hand.

The Plague and the Great Fire of London were both powerful agents in spreading out the densely-packed population of the City, and their effect was patent and immediate in the stimulus imparted to the building of dwelling-houses and shops in the districts around Covent Garden and St. Giles's, but, although Hyde Park provided a welcome asylum for the refugees during the time of the pestilence, the migration so far westward as Mayfair does not appear to have been so numerous or so immediate as in the districts named. The real commencement

of building at Mayfair on a large scale does not appear to have taken place before the beginning of the 18th century.

It will, however, be unnecessary to give in this place the various dates of the chief phases of this building, as such details will be given in another part of this volume when treating of the more important houses, streets, &c., but, in order to gain a good idea of the changes taking place in this district, we may profitably study Rocque's *Map of London*, published in 1746,—a map peculiarly suited for the purpose on account of its large scale and the accuracy of its details.

Here we see that at this date the area lying between Oxford Street (part of which was then called "Tiburn Road") and Piccadilly was to a large extent covered with buildings, Hanover, Grosvenor, and Berkeley Squares were laid out, and both sides of Piccadilly were occupied by well-defined lines of buildings. South of Piccadilly, however, the matter is entirely different. The Neat Houses were a few scattered buildings environed by gardens, and Tothill Fields were open to the River Thames. But there were signs of encroaching buildings. Rochester Row —a single row of houses—extended into the fields obliquely. The row of houses was built parallel with a single row of twenty-six trees, at the north-east end of which was "the Pound," where cattle straying over the waste ground of Tothill Fields were secured. Just beyond the Pound was the Artillery Ground.

The whole aspect of the place at that time—scarcely a century and a half ago—was that of a pastoral or market-gardening district, and we know from Strype's account (1720) that this district was famous for the vegetable produce it sent from its market gardens to the markets of London and Westminster. The fields and gardens were interspersed by hedgerows and trees, and an occasional house or cottage, and were watered by numerous streams.

The population of what are now Belgravia and Pimlico was at that time very small, and almost as much scattered as that of a small country village. North-west of the reservoir of the Chelsea Waterworks, with the exception of a few buildings around Avery Farm, there was a wide stretch of land irregularly intersected by the "King's Road," a winding country lane, bounded simply by broken hedges and trees.

VIEW OF ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE AND VICINITY, 1787.

Beyond Vauxhall Bridge Road (or rather the thoroughfare leading to the Thames which that road now represents) and the road leading to Chelsea, much of the ground was marshy, with extensive osier beds, about a century ago, and sportsmen in the reign of George III. sought for plovers and wild ducks among its solitary wastes. Warwick Street represents part of the Willow Walk, which was once the only bye-way between the two lines of roads, and close to this the monks of Westminster had a garden or orchard which long retained the name of the "Monastery Garden," a name which is supposed to have been shortened to the name of the "Monster," and thus to have given rise to the sign of the well-known tavern.

If we search for the reason why Pimlico remained unoccupied by houses until such a late date, we shall probably find a satisfactory explanation in these two facts: one reason was that the level of the land was only slightly above that of the river, giving rise to dampness, and frequently flooding when the rainfall was exceptionally heavy, or when the river was affected by an abnormally high tide. Another obstacle arose from the fact that the land was of great value as market gardens, but, of course, when the improvements of 1831 were made, and the level of the land was raised, the agricultural value of the land was immediately superseded by that which it bore for building purposes.

The shape of the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, is very peculiar, the northern portion—Mayfair—being almost severed by a narrow neck at Hyde Park Corner from the southern portions of Belgravia and Pimlico. The parish stretches from Oxford Street to the banks of the River Thames, including a large portion of Hyde Park, and about half of the Serpentine. Its inhabitants include the majority of the aristocracy and nobility of London, and probably no locality in the world of equal area could show amongst its population such a large per centage of men and women eminent in their various spheres as that which is included within the limits of this parish. The spacious and beautiful mansions of the nobility form a special feature in the locality, and will be duly described in another part of this volume.

The abnormally low death-rate of this parish speaks eloquently for the sanitary arrangements of the district, and well justifies the jubilant strain which pervades the annual reports of the local sanitary authorities;

but this satisfactory state of things is due, doubtless, in no small degree, to the fact that most of the dwelling houses have been constructed upon those principles of solidity and spaciousness which have not guided the designers of buildings in other parts of London and other large towns. Moreover, the salubrious air of Hyde Park, as well as that afforded by the numerous squares and wide streets in the vicinity, have undoubtedly had their effect in this matter.

THE MANOR OF EIA.

The Manor of Eia, eight hundred and ninety acres in extent, comprised an area of land extending from what are now Uxbridge Road and Oxford Street down to the banks of the Thames. The manor appears to have been held officially by a high dignitary at the court of the Saxon Kings, bearing the title of Stalre or Stallere. The duties of the office appear to have included a combination of the more modern Master of the Horse, Constable, and Standard-bearer.

The nobleman who held this dignity at the time of the Norman invasion was named Asgar, and from Domesday Book it appears that he held numerous lands and manors by right of his office. After the Conquest, William the Norman appointed one of his nobles, Geoffrey de Mandeville, or Magnavilla (ancestor of the Mandevilles, Earls of Essex), to succeed to all those lands which Asgar had held officially, but not to the property which that Saxon lord had inherited from his fathers. This manor or estate of Eia appears to have come under the first category.

About the time of the compilation of Domesday Book this manor or estate of Eia was divided into three manors, viz., Neyte or Neat, Ebury, and Hyde.

THE MANOR OF NEYTE, OR NEAT.

In speaking of the estate of Eia, it has been stated that that estate was divided into three manors—Neyte or Neat, Ebury, and Hyde. The last-named manor has been referred to in connection with the account of Hyde Park. Eyebury, Eubery, or Ebury, was situated towards Chelsea. Neyte, on account of its proximity to the Abbey and to the river, appears to be that part of the estate to which the monks gave

MAP OF ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE AND VICINITY, 1854.

the preference, and this manor was subsequently used as a residence by some of the Abbots, and in it died, on the 27th of November, 1386, Abbot Nicholas Littlington, who had greatly improved the property. So comfortable had the good monks by this time made the manor of Neyte, that no less a person than John of Gaunt, titular King of Castille, and brother of King Edward III., did not think it beneath his dignity to take up his abode in it, and asked liberty of the Abbot to reside there whilst Parliament was sitting at Westminster. Nor is he the only person of royal blood connected with this manor: for there also on the 7th of November, 1448, John, fifth son of Richard Duke of York, was born.

Little more than a century after, in 1592, Neyte (though it still had a moat in the time of Henry VIII.), had dwindled down to the proportions of a farm, and thus it is described in the particulars of a dispute laid in that year before Lord Burleigh.

After the Restoration Neyte became a tea-garden and public pleasure resort, under the name of the "Neat Houses." Pepys writes thus in his *Diary*, under the date of 1st August, 1667:—

"Dined at Sir W. Pen's. . . . After the play, we went into the house, and spoke to Knipp, who went abrood with us by coach to the Neat Houses in the way to Chelsy; and there in a box in a tree, we sat and sang, and talked and eat."

In the following year Pepys visited the place again, and in his *Diary* he writes:—

"Met Mercer and Gayet, and took them by water, first to one of the Neat Houses, where walked in the garden, but nothing but a bottle of wine to be had, but pleased with seeing the garden."

It was in this locality that Mrs. Gwynne, the mother of the famous Nell Gwynne, was accidentally drowned, in the year 1679. A contemporary newspaper, *The Domestic Intelligencer*, thus refers to the sad event:—

"We hear that Madam Ellen Gwyn's mother, sitting lately by the water-side at her house by the Neate Houses, near Chelsea, fell accidentally into the water and was drowned."

The name is supposed by some to have reference to the original purpose of the buildings in this spot, that is, cow-houses, but this etymology is questioned. The land around the Neat Houses was

for many years laid out as market gardens. Strype, referring to them, speaks of the houses being "inhabited by gardeners, for which it is of note for supplying London and Westminster Markets with Asparagus, Artichoaks, Cauliflowers, Musmelons, and the like useful things that the earth produceth, which by reason of their keeping the ground so rich by dunging it (and through the nearness of London they have the soil cheap) doth make their crops very forward, to their great profit in coming to such good markets."

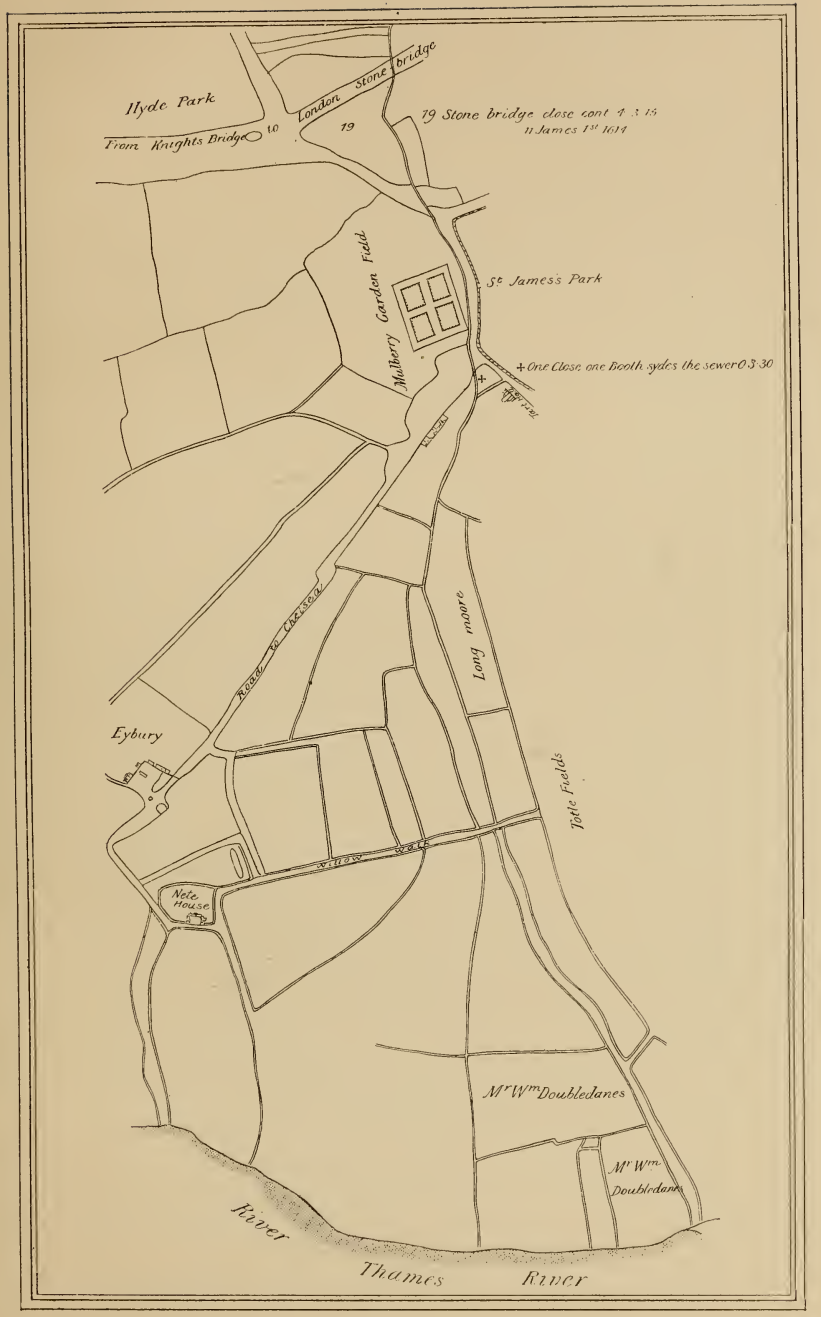
The Neat Houses and gardens were still extant in the beginning of the present century. The houses stood on the site now occupied by St. George's Row, Warwick Street, Pimlico, and the gardens were in front of them, reaching to the river-side, on the area now bounded by the Chelsea Waterworks, Bessborough Gardens, and Warwick Street (formerly called Willow Walk).

About the year 1831, great alterations were made in this district. The soil excavated from St. Katharine's Docks was brought hither, and spread out over the surface of the ground until the whole space was elevated to a level with the Chelsea Road. Upon this artificial ground streets of houses were built with great rapidity; and the parish of St. Gabriel, Pimlico, with its dense population, now exists where less than a century before were merely market gardens, and a few small houses.

EYBERY, OR EBURY FARM.

Queen Elizabeth let this farm on lease to a person named Whashe, who paid £21 per annum, and by whom the "same was let to divers persons, who, for their private commodity, did inclose the same, and had made pastures of arable land; thereby not only annoying Her Majesty in her walks and passages, but to the hindrance of her game, and great injury to the common, which at Lammas was wont to be laid open." In the 16th century, Eybery Farm contained about 450 acres of meadow and pasture, and the homestead stood on the site of what is now Ebury Square. It was originally of the nature of Lammas land, or land subject to be laid open as common, after Lammas-tide, for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish.

Tradition says that Queen Elizabeth paid visits to this farm early in the morning to partake of syllabubs.



PLAN OF THE MANOR OF EBURY, 1614.

From the Records relating to the Grosvenor Estate at Westminster.

A writer (Mr. J. R. S. Clifford) who recently recorded his recollections of this spot, says:—"After various changes, and the removal of the old buildings, the square (Ebury Square) was a nursery garden, as many inhabitants of Pimlico can recollect, the last in fact of the nurseries or market gardens in the West End district. Across the canal, in what is now called South Belgravia, I can remember fields of vegetables growing —say forty years ago—and green sloping banks, gay with wild flowers during June, where white and tortoise-shell butterflies sported freely, and I, with other lads, hunted for 'woolly bears,' *i.e.*, caterpillars of the tiger moth, amongst the low herbage. The road leading past the outskirts of Ebury-farm to Ranelagh House and Gardens was shaded with a handsome row of limes, planted in the reign of William III. Till the erection of the present Chelsea Barracks, there survived Wilderness-row, a reminder of those days when it was the fashion to have in every gentleman's garden of any size, what was called a wilderness. . . . Standing on the west of Ebury-farm, close to the boundary of Lord Ranelagh's garden, we should have had, two centuries ago, a fine prospect beyond, embracing the tree-shaded Cheyne-walk, Chelsea Old Church, and its numerous scattered mansions. But in the eastern side let us suppose ourselves in that field which is now occupied by Ebury-street, and its bye-streets, we should discover that Pimlico was practically non-existent; there are a few houses apart from each other, but they do not intercept our view of St. James's to the north, and Westminster to the south, with the park lying between them."

The old site of Ebury or Eybery Farm now forms a part of the estate of the Duke of Westminster, having been brought into the Grosvenor Family by the marriage of Mary Davies, only child of Alexander Davies, of Ebury Manor, with Sir Thomas Grosvenor, in the seventeenth century.

PIMLICO.

Pimlico has been described as a large district lying between St. James's Park, the River Thames, the village of Chelsea, Hyde Park Corner, and the hamlet of Knightsbridge. At one time it was noted for its public pleasure gardens, but all traces of them have been swept

away by the irresistible tide of bricks and mortar, and such expressions as "the village of Chelsea," and the "hamlet of Knightsbridge," manifestly belong to former days. Whatever may have been the origin of the name Pimlico—and there is considerable doubt upon the subject—it seems that the name has been applied to this district for well-nigh three centuries. The place is mentioned early in the seventeenth century (1626-30) in the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, under the various forms of Pimlicoe, Pimplico, and Pimlico. At that early time the place was nearly uninhabited, and it does not appear in the rate-books of St. Martin's before the year 1680, when the Earl of Arlington, previously rated under the head of Mulberry Garden, is, though living in the same house, rated under the head of Pimlico. In 1687, seven years after the first introduction of the name into the rate-books of the parish in which it was then situated, four people are described as residing in what was then called Pimlico—the Duke of Grafton, Lady Stafford, Thomas Wilkins, and Dr. Crispin. The Duke of Grafton, having married the only child of the Earl of Arlington, was residing at Arlington House, and Lady Stafford in what was then and long before called Tart Hall. In 1698, the Duke of Buckingham (then only Marquis of Normanby) bought Arlington House of the Duchess of Grafton, and rebuilding it shortly after, named it anew by its well-known title of Buckingham House. George IV. began the great alterations in Pimlico by rebuilding Buckingham House, and drawing the courtiers from Portland Place and Portman Square to the splendid mansions built by Thomas Cubitt and others, in what was known in that time, and long before, as the Five Fields, and is now Belgravia and Pimlico.

The following lines are from "Belgravia: A Poem," published in 1851, the authorship of which has been ascribed to Mrs. Gascoigne:—

"I sing Belgravia!—that fair spot of ground
Where all that worldlings covet most—is found!
Of this stupendous town—this 'mighty heart'
Of England's frame—the Fashionable part!
Belgravia! . . Sure that name hath power to bring
Warmth to my strains, and aid me whilst I sing!
Belgravia! favoured spot, that dost combine
Beauties so far above all praise of mine!
Thou of the gleaming walls and lordly crest,
Oasis of the 'Fashionable West!'

If such a theme should fail my Muse t' inspire,
Then can she boast no more her wonted fire,
No more attempt the song, nor strike th' accustomed lyre!
Time was, when here, where palaces now stand,
Where dwell at ease the magnates of the land,
A barren waste existed—fetid—damp,
Cheered by the ray of no enlivening lamp!
A marshy spot, where not one patch of green,
Nor stunted shrub—nor sickly flower was seen;
But all things base,—the refuse of the town,
Loathsome and rank, in one foul mass were thrown.

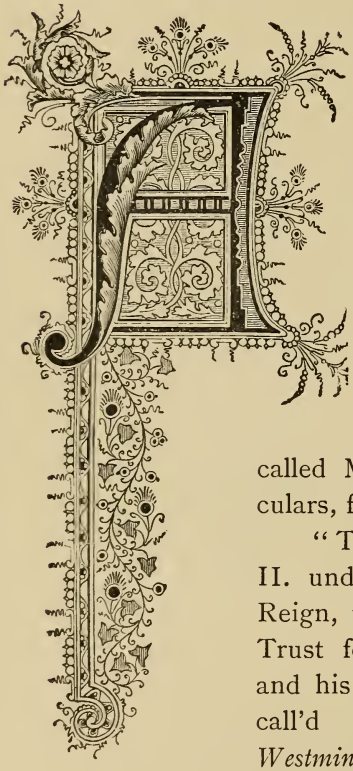
* * * * *

Such was Belgravia once—a waste unknown!
Behold that desert now—a gorgeous town!
On every side, before admiring eyes,
New squares appear—fresh palaces arise!"

CHAPTER II.

May Fair.—The Fair granted to Sir John Coell.—Riots and Disorders.—Brookfield Market.—Brian Fairfax's Account.—Amusements at the Fair—Royal Proclamation for the encouragement of virtue.—A Constable killed by the Mob.—May Fair a Cattle Market.—Duck-hunting.—Carter's Account of the Amusements at May Fair.

MAY FAIR.



SPACE, named Brook Field from its contiguity to the brook Tybourn, was the scene of this annual festival, called, from the circumstance of its being held in the month of May, "May Fair." The name of Brook Street similarly had its origin from the Tybourn. May Fair was held by a grant to the Abbot of Westminster, with revelry for fourteen days. A quaint duodecimo tract was published in 1709, entitled "Reasons for suppressing the Yearly Fair in Brook-Field, Westminster, commonly called May Fair." It contains various historical particulars, from which we extract the following passages:—

"The fair . . . was granted by King *James* II. under the Great Seal, in the Fourth Year of his Reign, to Sir *John Coell* and his Heirs for Ever, in Trust for the Right Honourable *Henry Lord Dover*, and his Heirs for Ever; to be held in the Field call'd *Brookfield*, in the Parish of *St. Martin's, Westminster*, to commence on the *First* Day of *May*, and to continue Fourteen Days after it Yearly for Ever, for the Sale of all manner of Goods and Merchandise.

"There was a Grant of two Markets every Week made by King *Charles* II. in the *Fiveteenth* Year of his Reign, for the Sale of Live

Cattle and other Goods, in the same Place,* but no *Fair* granted before that now mentioned: So that it hath now continued about *Twenty* Years.

"In this time sad Experience hath demonstrated, that this Grant however well intended, hath been of very ill Consequence, tending to corrupt the *Minds* and *Manners* of very many People; insomuch that is now one of the most pestilent Nurseries of *Impiety* and *Vice*; and one of the most Notorious Occasions of *Riot* and *Disorder*.

"Multitudes of the *Booths* erected in this Fair, are not for *Trade* and *Merchandise*, but for *Musick*, *Showes*, *Drinking*, *Gaming*, *Raffling*, *Lotteries*, *Stage-Plays*, and *Drolls*; which are constant and open Scenes of *Impiety* and *Profaneness*, and very frequently the Stalls of *Vice*, and *Impurities* not to be mentioned."

A newspaper of April, 1696, has the following announcement:—

"In Brookfield Market, at the East end of Hide Park, is a Fair to be kept for sixteen days; the first three days for leather and live cattle, beginning on the first of May; where those that bring in leather has their ground this year *gratis*. This Fair continues yearly at the same time and place, where there is a droll called King William's happy Deliverance and glorious Triumph over his Enemies, or the whole form of the Siege of Namur."

The following account of May Fair in 1701 is extracted from a letter of Brian Fairfax, in Nichols's *Tatler*, i. 418:—

"I wish you had been at May Fair, where the rope-dancing would have recompensed your labour. All the nobility in town were there; and I am sure that even you, at your years, must have had your youthful wishes to have beheld the beauty, shape, and activity of Lady Mary when she danced. Pray ask my Lord Fairfax after her, who,

* The *London Gazette*, of September, 1688 (No. 2384) contains the following notice of the grant of a market at Brook-Field:—"His Majesty hath been graciously pleased to grant a market for live Cattle to be held in Brook-field, near Hyde Park Corner, on Tuesday and Thursday in every week. The first Market Day will be held on the first Thursday in October next, and afterwards to continue weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays—the Tuesday market in the morning for cattle and in the afternoon for horses."

The *Gazette* of February 28th, 1694-95, states:—"There is a Fair granted to be kept in Brookfield Market Place, near the east corner of Hyde Park in Middlesex, for all sorts of goods, and the first two days will be for live cattel. The fair will begin on the first day of May next, and continue till the sixteenth day, and so will be held yearly at the same time and place."

though not the only lord by twenty, was every night an admirer of her while the fair lasted. There was the City of Amsterdam, well worth your seeing; every street, every individual house was carved in wood, in exact proportion one to another; the Stadthouse was as big as your hand; the whole, though an irregular figure, yet that you may guess, about ten yards' diameter. Here was a boy to be seen, that within one of his eyes had DEUS MEUS in capital letters, as GULIELMUS is on half-a-crown; round the other he had a Hebrew inscription; but this you must take, as I did, upon trust."

When first instituted, the market at Brook Field does not appear to have been favoured with a large share of popularity, but the following announcements for the year 1702, show that the amusements were by that time numerous, and the fair in high vogue.

"Her Majesty's Company of Ropedancers.

"At Barnes and Finley's Booth, at the lower end of Brookfield Market, over against Mr. Penkethman and Mr. Simpson's, and next to Mrs. Mills and Mr. Bullock's, with as large a Company as they had last Bartholomew Fair, exceed all whatever they have done before.

"Vivat Regina."

"At Miller's booth in May Fair, the second booth on the right hand coming into the Fair, over against the famous Mr. Barnes the rope-dancer, will be presented an excellent droll, call'd Crispin and Crispiana; or a Shoemaker's a Prince: with the comical humours of Barnaby and the Shoemaker's Wife. With the best machines, singing and dancing, ever yet in the Fair. Where the famous ladder-dancer performs those things upon the ladder never before seen, to the admiration of all men."

About this period a Royal Proclamation, to be read both in churches and places of public judicature, came forth for the encouragement of virtue and suppressing of vice, and this circumstance appears to have excited more than usual vigilance among the peace-officers. A warrant was issued by the Justices to the High Constable, for suppressing vice and immorality, in pursuance of Her Majesty's Proclamation for the same, who accordingly sent his summons to the other Constables, who thereupon met together, and proceeded to May Fair. They took up several prostitutes at the fair, but had to contend, in the execution of their office, with an enraged mob, and in the contest John Cooper, a

constable, was killed. One of the supposed assailants was Thomas Cook, a Gloucestershire butcher and prize-fighter, who was taken up in the following year in Ireland, tried at the Old Bailey for the offence, and having been found guilty, was executed.

A funeral sermon on the victim, Mr. John Cooper, was preached in the parish church of St. James, Westminster, on the 21st of May, 1702, by the Rev. Josiah Woodward, D.D., "Minister of Popler." This sermon was "Published at the Request of the Justices of the Peace, High Constables, and other Officers and Gentlemen that heard it," in the form of a small duodecimo tract, the title of which bears the black edging customarily found on funeral sermons of that period. The imprint is "London, Printed by Jos. Downing: And are to be Sold by D. Brown, at the Black-Swan and Bible without Temple-Bar; and E. Evans, near the Blue Boot in Piccadilly, 1702." There is an "Epistle Dedicatory," addressed to the "Justices of the Peace, High Constables," &c., prefixed to the sermon, which is founded upon the words, "Then stood up Phineas, and executed Judgment, and so the Plague was stayed." (Psalm 106, ver. 30.)

The account of the trial of Thomas Cook, the murderer, is told in a contemporary broadside, wherein it appears that the tumult occurred on the 12th of May, 1702, and that Cook gave Cooper one mortal wound with a rapier, on the left part of the body, of the depth of three inches. The constable languished until the 16th, and then died. One witness deposed that he saw the prisoner with a sword in his hand drawn, and that the mob, being about thirty soldiers, and he got over a bank, and stood in defiance of the constables, and hollowed, and threw brick-bats at them, but the deceased coming too near, they leapt off the bank, and pursued the constables to the sheep-pens. The deceased being the hindermost, they overtook him by the "Penns," and cut and wounded him, of which he died. Eight other persons were wounded in the same riot. The prisoner was there, and was seen with a blood-stained sword in his hand, and afterwards with the constable's staff. Cook got away to Dublin, where he kept a public-house, and used very commonly to brag of his exploits at May Fair, in London. However, he was discovered and brought to his trial at Old Bailey, and, as has already been mentioned, was found guilty, sentenced to death, and executed.

The popular ferment was very great: for the advocates of Cook strenuously insisted upon his innocence, and his body was exhibited in some kind of state in the neighbourhood of Clerkenwell previous to the interment.

At the October Sessions, 1703, William Wallis, a serjeant in the Guards, received sentence of death for the same offence, and was believed to have been the principal offender.

This sad affair, and the severity of justice with which it was followed, did not to any appreciable extent restrain the licentiousness of May Fair. There was a "Presentment" of the Grand Jury of Westminster against May Fair, made November 29th, 1708, wherein it was stated that they "do present, as a publick nuisance and Inconvenience, the Yearly riotous and tumultous Assembly, in a Place call'd Brook-field, in the Parish of St. Martin in the Fields, in this County, call'd May Fair; in which Place many loose, idle, and disorderly persons do rendezvous, and draw and allure young Persons and Servants, and others to meet them to Game, and commit lewd and disorderly Practices, to the great Corruption and Debauchery of their Virtue and Morals; and in which many and great Riots, Tumults, Breaches of the Peace, open and notorious Lewdness, and Murder itself, have been committed, and are likely to be committed if not prevented by some wise and prudent Method. And for that the said Fair, being so near Her Majesty's Palaces, it is, and may be very dangerous to Her Royal Person and Government, by seditious and unreasonable Men, taking thereby an Occasion to execute their most wicked and traiterous Designs. WHEREFORE, and because the said Fair, as it is now used, both actually is, and hath so fatal a Tendency to the Corruption of Her Majesty's Subjects, Violation of Her Peace, and Danger of Her Person, we humbly conceive it worthy the Care of those in Power and Authority to rectify the same."

A "Presentment" of a similar character was made by the Grand Jury for the County of Middlesex against May Fair, at the Sessions at Hick's Hill, on the 6th of December, 1708. And there were two others by the Westminster Grand Jury, in January and February, 1708-9, to the same effect, and stating, in the last, "That a Fair of the like nature, near the said Place, came to that intolerable height of

Lewdness and Disorder, in the Reign of King Charles the Second, that His Majesty, many Years before his Demise, suppressed the same; which, however, has revived again by another Name, as also their old evil exorbitant Courses." And the Court was prayed to "represent this matter to Her Majesty, that she may be graciously pleased to suppress the said Fair, as a Nursery of Vice and Atheism."

These "Presentments" were followed in the ensuing May by a Royal Proclamation, strictly enjoining the proprietors and owners of the Fair not to permit any booths or stalls to be erected while the Fair should be holden, for any plays, shews, gaming, music meetings, or other disorderly assemblies."

The *Tatler* of April 18th, 1709, says:—"Advices from the upper end of Piccadilly say that May Fair is utterly abolished, and we hear that Mr. Pinkethman has removed his ingenious company of strollers to Greenwich." In the issue of May 24th, of the same publication, is the following:—"The fair is now broke, but it is allowed still to sell animals there. Therefore, if any lady or gentleman have occasion for a tame elephant, let him enquire of Mr. Pinkethman, who has one to dispose of at a reasonable rate. The downfall of May Fair has sunk the price of this noble creature, as well as many other curiosities of nature. A tiger will sell almost as cheap as an ox; and I am credibly informed a man may purchase a calf with three legs for very nearly the value of one with four. I hear likewise that there is great desolation among the ladies and gentlemen who were the ornaments of the town, and used to shine in plumes and diadems, the heroes being most of them pressed, and the queens beating hemp."

As early as the year 1721, part of the grounds of May Fair were built over, but the fair itself was not extinguished. There was a donkey-race at the fair in 1736, and it is recorded that great crowds of spectators were attracted thereby.

The commercial importance of May Fair no doubt lasted until the market value of the land itself made the operations of the builder more remunerative than those of the cattle-dealer. The *Gentleman's Magazine* of March, 1738 (Vol. viii. p. 164), under the heading "Historical Chronicle," has the following announcement:—

"Mr. *Shepheard* the Builder, hath obtained his Majesty's Grant for

a Market, for Live Cattle, at May Fair, in the Parish of St. George, Hanover Square."

In the same magazine of January, 1750 (Vol. xx. p. 40), we find the following:—

"The Market was open'd at May Fair for all sorts of cattle, as at Smithfield."

These two announcements show that the locality of May Fair was used as a cattle market, and the annual celebration of the fair itself was still kept up in the year 1750.

"There was," says John Thomas Smith, in his *Streets of London*, "within memory, on the western portion, partly on the site of Hertford Street, an old wooden public-house, one of the original signs of the 'Dog and Duck,' behind which, towards the north, was a sheet of clear water, nearly two hnndred feet square, surrounded by a gravel walk of 10 feet in width, boarded up knee high, and shaded all round by willows. This pond was notorious for the cruel sport called 'Duck-hunting,' so long the delight of the English butchers."

The boarding was intended to protect the over-excited spectators from involuntary immersions.

Joseph Strutt, in his valuable work on the *Sports and Pastimes of the People of England*, gives the following particulars of Duck-Hunting:—

"This is a barbarous pastime, and for the performance it is necessary to have recourse to a pond of water sufficiently extensive to give the duck plenty of room for making her escape from the dogs when she is closely pursued; which she does by diving as often as any of them come near her. Duck-hunting was much practised in the neighbourhood of London about thirty or forty years ago (the book quoted is the 1830 edition); but of late it has gone out of fashion; yet I cannot help thinking, that the deficiency, at present, of proper places for the purpose has done more towards the abolishment of this sport than any amendment in the nature and inclination of the populace.

"Sometimes the duck is tormented in a different manner, without the assistance of the dogs; by having an owl tied upon her back, and so put into the water, where she frequently dives in order to escape from the burden, and on her return for air, the miserable owl, half

drowned, shakes itself, and hooting, frightens the duck; she of course dives again, and replunges the owl into the water; the frequent repetition of this action soon deprives the poor bird of its sensation, and generally ends in its death, if not in that of the duck also."

The following is a curious announcement of a duck-hunt at this celebrated pond which took place on the 27th of June, 1748:—

"At May Fair Ducking Pond, on Monday next, the 27th inst., Mr. Hooton's Dog, Nero (ten years old, with hardly a tooth in his head to hold a duck, but well known for his goodness to all that have seen him hunt), hunts six ducks for a guinea, against the bitch called the Flying Spaniel, from the Ducking Pond on the other side of the water, who has beat all she has hunted against, except Mr. Hooton's Good-Blood. To begin at two o'clock.

"Mr. Hooton begs his customers won't take it amiss to pay twopence admittance at the gate, and take a ticket, which will be allowed as cash in their reckoning. No person admitted without a ticket, that such as are not liked may be kept out. Note—Right Lincoln Ale."

The following interesting recollections of the amusements of May Fair, were communicated by John Carter to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and were published in that journal in the issue of March, 1816 (Vol. 86, Pt. 1, pp. 229-30):—

"Fifty years have passed away since this place of amusement was at its height of attraction: the spot where the fair was held still retains the name of May Fair, and exists in much the same state as at the above period: for instance, Shepherd's Market, and houses surrounding it on the North and East sides, with White Horse Street, Shepherd's Court, Sun Court, Market Court. Westwards an open space extending to Tyburn (now Park) Lane, since built upon, in Chapel Street, Shepherd's Street, Market Street, Hertford Street, &c. Southwards the noted Ducking Pond, house and gardens, since built upon, in a large Riding School, Carrington Street (the noted Kitty Fisher lived in this street), &c.

"The Market-house consisted of two stories; first story, a long and cross aile for butchers' shops, externally, other shops connected with culinary purposes; second story, used a theatre at fair-time, for dra-

matic performances. My recollection serves to raise before me the representation of the *Revenge*, in which the only object left on remembrance is the 'black man,' Zanga. Below, the butchers gave place to toy-men, and gingerbread bakers. At present the upper story is unfloored, the lower ditto nearly deserted by the butchers, and their shops occupied by needy pedling dealers in small wares; in truth, a most deplorable contrast to what once was such a point of allurement. In the areas encompassing the market-building were booths for jugglers, prize-fighters, both at cudgels and backsword, boxing-matches, and wild beasts. The sports not under cover were mountebanks, fire-eaters, ass-racing, sausage-tables, dice ditto, up-and-downs, merry-go-rounds, bull-baiting, grinning for a hat, running for a shift, hasty-pudding eaters, eel-divers, and an infinite variety of other similar pastimes. Among the extraordinary and wonderful delights of the happy spot, take the following few items which still hold place within my mind, though I cannot affirm they all occurred at one precise season. The account may be relied on, as I was born, and passed my youthful days in the vicinity, in Piccadilly (Carter's Statuary), two doors from the South end of White Horse street, since rebuilt (occupied at present by Lady Pulteney).

"*Ducking Pond*, with a large commodious house, good disposure of walks, arbours, alcoves; and, in an area before the house, an extensive bason of water, otherwise Ducking Pond, for the recreation of lovers of that *polite* and *humane* sport. Persons who came with their dogs paid a trifling fee for admission, being considered the chief patrons and supporters of the pond; others, who visited the place as mere spectators, paid a double fee. A duck was put into the pond by the master of the hunt; the several dogs were then let loose, to seize the bird. For a long time they made the attempt in vain; for, when they came near the devoted victim, she dived under water, and eluded their remorseless fangs. Here consisted the *extreme felicity* of the *interesting* scene. At length, some dog, more expert than the rest, caught the feathered prize, and bore it away, amidst the loudest acclamations, to his most fortunate and envied master. This diversion was held in such high repute about the reign of Charles II. that he, and many of his prime nobility, did not disdain to be present, and partake with

their dogs of the *elegant entertainment.* In Mrs. Behn's Play of 'Sir Patient Fancy' (written at the above period), a Sir Credulous Easy talks about a cobbler, his dog-tutor, and his expectation of soon becoming 'the Duke of Ducking Pond.'

"*Mountebank's Stage.* One was erected opposite the Three Jolly Butchers public house (on the east side of the market area, now the King's Arms). Here Woodward, the inimitable Comedian and Harlequin, made his first appearance as Merry-Andrew: from these humble boards he soon afterwards found his way to Covent Garden Theatre.

"*Beheading of Puppets.* In a coal-shed attached to a grocer's shop (then Mr. Fritti's, now Mr. Frampton's), one of those mock executions was exposed to the attending crowd. A shutter was fixed horizontally, on the edge of which, after many previous ceremonies, a puppet laid its head, and another puppet then instantly chopped it off with an axe. In a circular stair-case window, at the north end of Sun-court, a similar performance took place by another set of puppets. The condemned puppet bowed its head to the sill, which, as above, was soon decapitated. In these representations the late punishment of the Scotch chieftain (Lord Lovat) was alluded to, in order to gratify the feelings of Southern loyalty, at the expense of that farther North.

"*Strong Woman.* In a fore one-pair room, on the West side of Sun-court, a Frenchman submitted to the curious the astonishing strength of his wife. A blacksmith's anvil being procured from White Horse-street, with three of the men, they brought it up, and placed it on the floor. The woman was short, but most beautifully and delicately formed, and of a most lovely countenance. She first let down her hair (a light auburn) of a length descending to her knees, which she twisted round the projecting part of the anvil, and then, with seeming ease, lifted the ponderous weight some inches from the floor. After this a bed was laid in the middle of the room; when, reclining on her back, and uncovering her bosom, the husband ordered the smiths to place thereon the anvil, and forge upon it a horseshoe! This they obeyed; by taking from the fire a red-hot piece of iron, and with their forging hammers completing the shoe, with the same might and indifference as when in the shop at their constant labour. The prostrate fair one appeared to endure this with the utmost composure, talking

and singing during the whole process: then, with an effort which to the bystanders seemed like some supernatural trial, cast the anvil from off her body, jumping up at the same moment with extreme gaiety, and without the least discomposure of her dress or person.

"That no trick or collusion could possibly be practised on the occasion was obvious, from the following evidence. The audience stood promiscuously about the room, among whom were our family and friends; the smiths utter strangers to the Frenchman, but known to us; therefore, the several efforts of strength must have proceeded from the natural and surprizing power this foreign dame was possessed of. She next put her naked foot upon a red-hot salamander, without receiving the least injury; but this is a feat familiar with us at this time. Here this kind of gratification to the senses concluded.

"*Tiddy-Doll.* The celebrated vendor of gingerbread who, from his eccentricity of character, and extensive dealings in his way, was always hailed as the king of itinerant tradesmen. He was a constant attendant in the crowd on Lord Mayor's day. In his person he was tall, well-made, and his features handsome. He affected to dress like a person of rank; white gold lace suit of cloaths, laced ruffled shirt, laced hat and feather, white silk stockings, with the addition of a fine white apron. Among his harangues to gain customers, take this specimen: 'Mary, Mary, where are you *now*, Mary? I live, when at home, at the second house in Little Ball Street, two steps underground, a wiscum, a riscum, and a why-not. Walk in, ladies and gentlemen; my shop is on the second floor backwards, with a brass-knocker at the door. Here is your nice gingerbread, your spice gingerbread; it will melt in your mouth like a red-hot brick-bat, and rumble in your inside like Punch and his wheelbarrow;' ever finishing his address by singing this fag end of some popular ballad—

'Ti-tid-dy, ti-ti,
Ti-tid-dy, ti-ti.
Ti-tid-dy, ti-ti,
Tid-dy did-dy dol-lol,
Tid-dy ti, tid-dy ti-ti,
Tid-dy tid-dy, dol.'

"Hence the nick-name of *Tiddy-doll.* In Hogarth's print of the execution of the Idle 'Prentice at Tyburn, *Tiddy-doll* is seen holding up

a gingerbread cake with his left hand, his right being within his coat, and addressing the mob in his usual way: 'Mary, Mary, &c.' His costume agrees with the aforesaid description. For many years (and perhaps at present) allusions were made to his name, thus, 'You are so fine (to a person dressed out of character) you look like Tiddy-Doll —You are as tawdry as Tiddy-Doll—You are quite Tiddy-Dol, &c.'

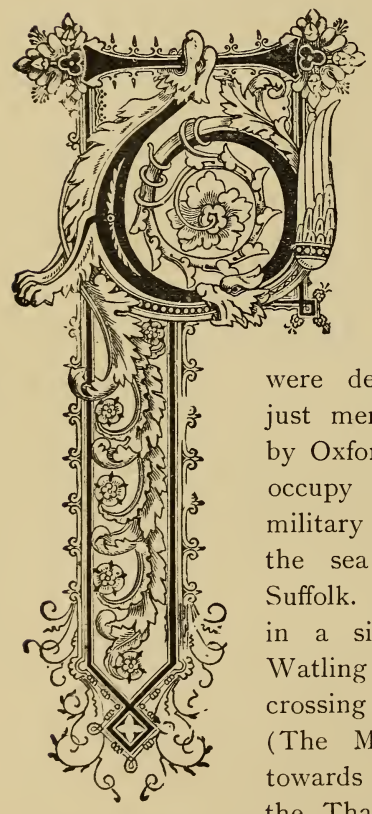
"Soon after the late Lord Coventry occupied the house, corner of Engine Street, Piccadilly (built by Sir Henry Hunlocke, bart., on the site of a large antient Inn, called the 'Greyhound'), he being annoyed with the unceasing uproar night and day, during the fair, (the whole month of May) procured, I know not by what means, the entire abolition of this festival of 'Misrule' and disorder.

"J. Carter."

CHAPTER III.

Hyde Park.—Roman Roads.—The Estate of Eia.—The Manor of Hyde seized by Henry VIII. —The Rangers of Hyde Park.—Hyde Park a Royal hunting ground.—Poachers.—Charles I. opens Hyde Park to the Public.—Races.—The Great Plague.—Hide Park Camp Limn'd out to the life.—Westminster Drollery.—"The Ring."—Duels: Lord Mohun and Duke of Hamilton, Wilkes and Martin, Sheridan and Matthews, &c.—Reviews in Hyde Park.—Riots in 1866.—The Four-in-hand Club —Rotten Row.

HYDE PARK.



THE earliest date to which the history of Hyde Park can be traced back is one soon after the Norman Conquest, upon which occasion, it being a portion of the manor or estate of Eia, it must have been included in the gift conferred by William the Conqueror upon Geoffrey de Mandeville.

It has been pointed out that the boundary lines of two sides of the Park were defined at a much earlier period than that just mentioned. The northern boundary is marked by Oxford Street and Uxbridge Road, which actually occupy portions of the site of an old Roman military road, called Via Trinobantina, leading from the sea-coast of Hampshire to the sea-coast of Suffolk. Its eastern boundary was partly marked in a similar manner by the course of the old Watling Street, which led from Chester to Dover, crossing the first-mentioned Roman road at Tyburn (The Marble Arch), and proceeding from thence towards what is now St. James's Park, and so to the Thames.

At about the time of the compilation of Domesday Book, the estate of Eia was divided into three manors, namely, Neyte or Neat, Ebury, and Hyde. Of the last-named manor, unfortunately, little is known

A FIELD-DAY IN HYDE PARK *(By Rowlandson.)*

save that the present park occupies a portion of its site and perpetuates its name.

Mandeville gave the manor of Hyde to the monks at Westminster, and in their possession it remained for nearly five centuries. It is supposed that during that period, the holy fathers, who thoroughly understood how to render property profitable, caused some of the forest trees to be cut down, and the woody wastes of Hyde Park to be converted into valuable pasture lands. It is not improbable that they also formed the eleven ponds, which in the time of James I., and long after, occupied the site of the present Serpentine.

At the suppression of the monasteries the goodly manors of Hyde, Neyte, Ebury, and Toddington, were seized by the King. The conveyance, as recited in the Act, dated July 1, 28 Henry VIII., states that the Right Reverend Father in God, William Boston, and the Convent of Westminster, "with their whole assent, consent, and agreement," transferred to the King the above mentioned lands, including "the scyte, soyle, circuyte, and procyncte of the manor of Hyde, wyth all the demayne landes, tenements, rents, meadows, and pastures of the said manor, with all other profytes and comodities to the same appertainyng or belongyng, which now be in the tenure and occupation of one John Arnold." Hyde having been surveyed at the period of transfer to the King, was valued at a yearly return of fourteen pounds, which proves it to have been a lucrative and well-managed property.

The immediate object of Henry's seizure of this estate in all probability was the extension of his hunting-grounds to the north and west of London. He had previously purchased that plot of ground which afterwards became St. James's Park. Marylebone Park (now the Regent's Park and surrounding districts) formed already part of the royal domain, and thus the manor of Hyde connected with these gave him an uninterrupted hunting-ground, which extended from his palace of Westminster to Hampstead Heath. That some such idea existed in the King's mind appears from a proclamation for the preservation of his game issued in July, 1536, in which it is stated that "As the King's most royal Majesty is desirous to have the games of hare, partridge, pheasant, and heron preserved, in and about the honour of his palace of Westminster, for his own disport and pastime, no

person, on the pain of imprisonment of their bodies, and further punishment at his Majesty's will and pleasure, is to presume to hunt or hawk, from the palace of Westminster to St. Giles-in-the-Fields, and from thence to Islington, to Our Lady of the Oak, to Highgate, to Hornsey Park and to Hampstead Heath."

Mr. Larwood considers it probable that it was about this time that the manor of Hyde was made into a park, that is, was enclosed with a fence or paling, and thus became still better adapted for the rearing and preservation of game. At that period, and for long after, Hyde Park was of much more considerable extent than it is at the present time, reaching as far as Park Lane to the east, and almost up the site of Kensington Palace to the west.

The first ranger of Hyde Park was George Roper, who appears to have been appointed at about the period of the reformation, with the modest salary of sixpence a day, added to which were various perquisites, such as free lodging and firewood, permission to hunt in the Park, grazing cattle, &c.

In 1553, Roper was succeeded by Francis Nevell. For some unexplained reason the keepership was now divided between two gentlemen, who however, occupied separate lodges. The one lived in the lodge which stood on the site of the present Apsley House; the other, more towards the centre of the Park, probably in a building afterwards known as the Banqueting House, or the Old Lodge, and which was pulled down at the formation of the Serpentine in 1733. The patent of Nevell's appointment, after alluding to the faithful services rendered by him, as well to King Edward VI. as to Queen Mary, states that he had exercised the office of keeper well and faithfully from the time of the death of George Roper, and conferred upon him the office of keeper, which he was to hold, himself or his sufficient deputies, for life. The fee was only fourpence a day, and the permission for free pasturage limited to twelve cows, one bull, and six oxen, together with the other profits to the said office belonging. Nevell was appointed in the last year of the reign of King Edward VI., and he does not appear to have had any associate in the discharge of his official duties for twenty-one years afterwards.

In the year 1574, Queen Elizabeth appointed Henry Carey, first

Lord Hunsdon, K.G., as Nevell's associate in the keepership. His fee was fixed at fourpence a day, and the perquisites of the office included all the herbage, pannage, and brouzewood for deer. At the death of Nevell he was to have the reversion of that office, with an additional fourpence a day salary.

Lord Hunsdon, who survived Nevell, was upon his death in 1596, succeeded in the keepership of Hyde Park by his fourth son, Sir Edward Carey, Knt. The new keeper had no colleague in the office he held and was granted a salary of eightpence a day, and the use of all the houses, lodges, and edifices, except the lodge and mansion, with the herbage and pannage attached to it, reserved for his mother, the Lady Ann Hunsdon, relict of the late keeper. Sir Edward Carey retained his keepership until after the accession of James I.

In Nevell's time, in 1570, an area of forty acres of land attached to the Park, and lying in the parish of Knightsbridge, was railed in, enclosed, and added to it. No cattle were allowed to enter this enclosure, as it was reserved for the deer to graze in, and the grass growing within it was to be mown for hay, which was intended to be used for the deer in winter.

The exact locality of this area is not stated, but it is probable that the fence enclosing it was the same as that which was pulled down by the Londoners on their Lammas crusade in 1592.

During the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, Elizabeth, and James I., Hyde Park was used as a royal hunting ground. In 1550, Edward VI. hunted there with the French ambassadors, and there is strong probability that Queen Elizabeth, and perhaps other royal personages, took part in the hunting for which Hyde Park at that time was famous.

The next Park keeper after Sir Edward Carey was Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, who succeeded to the office in 1607. In 1610 Sir Walter Cope was appointed as his associate, with benefit of survivorship, and George Baynard is mentioned about this time as occupying the position of under-keeper. On the death of the Earl of Salisbury, in 1612, Sir Walter Cope surrendered the keepership of Hyde Park for life to his son-in-law, Sir Henry Rich, subsequently created Earl of Holland.

During the keepership of Salisbury and Cope various repairs and improvements appear to have been going on in Hyde Park. The State Papers record divers grants of money for the planting of trees, repairs of lodges, pales, fences, standings, pond-heads, and so forth.

In 1619, two or three poachers were caught shooting the deer, and an affray happened in which one of the gamekeepers was killed. Mr. Chamberlain, in a letter to his friend Carleton, says that "the case was not so foul as it seems at first sight, if it is true that they were set on by a letter of Sir Thomas Watson's, to entrap certain notorious dealers by a double train, and that the keepers had notice of their coming as they pretend, and shot hail-shot amongst them at their first approach." The unfortunate men were executed a few weeks after at Hyde Park Gate; and even a poor labourer whom they had hired for sixteenpence to hold their dogs, shared the same fate.

Charles I. deserves the thanks of the nation, and of Londoners in particular, for his free-will opening of Hyde Park as a pleasure ground to the public. The date of the first opening of the Park is supposed to be prior to 1635, for among the State Papers in the Public Record Office there is still preserved a document containing the articles of agreement for a certain race between John Prettyman and John Havers, which took place in Hyde Park in that year.

Charles I. was a frequent spectator of the races in Hyde Park, which, as is shown in James Shirley's comedy *Hyde Park*, were events of considerable popular importance, and no doubt constituted the chief elements of the sport in Hyde Park. Upon the occasion of one of these visits Charles I. insulted Henry Martin, M.P., who had his revenge a few years after when he placed his signature next that of Oliver Cromwell's upon Charles's death-warrant.

In 1645, orders were given "that Hyde Park and Spring Gardens should be kept shut, and no person be allowed to go into any of those places on the Lord's day, fast, and thanksgiving days, and hereof those that have the keeping of the said places are to take notice and see this order obeyed, as they will answer the contrary at their uttermost peril."

During the terrible ravages of the Great Plague, in August and September, 1665, Hyde Park was used as a camping ground for those

who fled, and the following extracts from a contemporary broadside, preserved in the King's Library at the British Museum, give an interesting, although sombre picture of the scene.

HIDE PARK CAMP

LIMN'D OUT TO THE LIFE.

Truly, and impartially, for the Information and Satisfaction of such as were not Eye Witnesses of the Souldiers sad Sufferings, in that (never to be forgotten) Year of our Lord God, One thousand six hundred sixty five. Written by a Fellow-Souldier and Sufferer in the said Camp.

Help now (*Minerva*) stand a Souldiers Friend,
Direct my Muse that I may not offend
The absent to inform is all my aim
A worthy work can never purchase blame.

In *July*, sixteen hundred sixty and five,
(O happy is the Man that's now alive)
When God's Destoying Angel sore did smite us,
'Cause he from sin by no means could invite us;
When lovely *London* was in Mourning Clad,
And not a Countenance appear'd but sad;
When the Contagion all about was spread;
And people in the Streets did fall down dead.
When Moneyed Fugitives away did flee,
And took their Heels in hopes to be scot-free.
Just then we March't away, the more's the pitty,
And took our farewell of the Doleful City.
With heavy hearts unto *Hide-Park* we came,
To chuse a place whereas we might remain:
Our Ground we view'd, then streight to work we fall,
And build up Houses without any Wall.
We pitch't our Tents on Ridges, and in Furrows,
And their encampt, fearing the *Almighty Arrows*
But O alas! What did all this avail;
Our men (ere long) began to droop and quail.
Our Lodgings cold, and some not us'd thereto,
Fell sick, and dy'd, and made no more adoe.
At length the Plague amongst us 'gan to spread,
When every morning some were found stark dead.
Down to another field the sick were t'ane;
But few went down, that e're came up again.
For want of comfort, many I observ'd
Perisht and dy'd, which might have been preserv'd.
But that which most of all did grieve my Soul,
To see poor Christians drag'd into a Hole:
Tye Match about them, as they had been Logs,
And draw them into Holes, far worse than Dogs.

* * * *

Methinks I hear some say, Friend, Prithee hark,
Where got you drink and Victuals in the *Park* ?
I, there's the Query ; We shall soon decide it,
Why, We had men, cal'd Sutlers, provided :
Subtle they were, before they drove this Trade,
But by this means, they all were sutler made.
No wind, or weather, ere could make them flinch,
Yet they would have the Souldiers at a pinch.
For my part, I know little of their way,
But what I heard my fellow Souldiers say ;
One said, their Meat and Pottage was too fat ;
Yes, quoth another, we got none of that :
Besides, quoth he, they have a cunning sleight,
In selling out their Meat by pinching weight ;
To make us pay sixpence a pound for Beefe,
To a poor Souldier, is no little grief.
Their bread is small, their cheese is markt by th' Inch,
And to speak truth, they're all upon the pinch.
As for their Liquor drink it but at leisure,
And you shall ne're be drunk with over measure.
Alass, *Hide-Park*, these are with thee sad dayes,
Thy Coaches all are turn'd to Brewers Drayes ;
Instead of Girls with Oranges and Lemons,
The Bakers boys, they brought in loaves by dozens ;
And by that means, they kept us pretty sober,
Until the latter end of wet *October*.
They promis'd we should march, and then we leapt,
But all their promises were brok (or kept)
They made us all, for want of Winter Quarters,
Ready to hang ourselves in our own Garters.
At last the Dove came with the Olive Branch,
And told for certain, that we should advance
Out of the field ; O then we leapt for joy,
And cry'd, with one accord, *Vive le Roy*.
Upon *Gunpowder Treason* day, (at Night)
We burnt our Bed-straw, to make Bonefire light ;
And went to Bed, that night, so merry hearted
For joy, we and our Lodgings should be parted :
Next morning we were up by break of day,
To be in readiness to march away.
We bid adue to *Hyde-Parks* fruitful soil,
And left the Countrey to divide the spoyl.
With flying colours we the City enter,
And then into our Quarters boldly venture.
Our Land-Ladyes, said *Wellcome* (as was meet),
But for our Landlords, some lookt sowr some sweet,
So soon as we were got into warm Bed
We look't as men new metamorphosed.
But now I think 'tis best to let them sleep,
Whilst I out of the Chamber softly creep,
To let you know that now my task is done,
Would I had known as much when I begun.

A sadder time, I freely dare engage,
Was never known before in any Age.
God bless King Charles, *and send him long to Reign*
And grant we never may know the like again.

A collection of rare songs printed in 1671, entitled *Westminster Drollery*, contains the following descriptive verses:—

A SONG CALLED HIDE PARK.

The tune,
Honour invites you to delights,
Come to the Court, and all be made Knights.

1. Come all you noble, you that are neat ones,
Hide-Park is now both fresh and green:
Come all you gallants that are great ones,
And are desirous to be seen:
Would you a Wife or Mistriss rare,
Here are the best of *England* fair:
Here you may chuse, also refuse,
As you your judgments please to use.

2. Come all you Courtiers in your neat fashions,
Rich in your new unpaid-for silk:
Come you brave Wenches, and court your stations,
Here in the bushes the Maids do milk:
Come then and revel, the spring invites
Beauty and youth for your delights,
All that are fair, all that are rare,
You shall have license to compare.

3. Here the great Ladies all of the Land are,
Drawn with six Horses at the least:
Here all that of the *Strand* are,
And to be seen now at the best
Westminster-Hall, who is of the Court,
Unto his place doth now all resort:
Both high and low here you may know,
And all do come themselves to show.

4. The Merchants wives that keep their Coaches,
Here in the Park do take the air;
They go abroad to avoid reproaches,
And hold themselves as Ladies fair:
For whilst their husbands gone are to trade
Unto their ships by Sea or Land:
Who will not say, why may not they
Trade, like their own Husbands, in their own way.

5. Here from the Countrey come the Girles flying
For husbands, though of parts little worth :
They at th' *Exchange* have been buying
The last new fashion that came forth :
And are desirous to have it seen,
As if before it ne're had been :
So you may see all that may be
Had in the Town or Countrey.

6 Here come the Girles of the rich City,
Aldermen's daughters fair and proud,
Their jealous Mothers come t' invite ye,
For fear they should be lost i' the croud :
Who for their breeding are taught to dance,
Their birth and fortune to advance :
And they will be as frolick and free,
As you your self expect to see.

THE RING, HYDE PARK.

There is some uncertainty as to the original purpose of "the Ring," but it has been suggested that it may have been a remnant of the garden attached to the Banqueting House, or it may simply have been made by the two speculating citizens who hired the ground from Anthony Dean, Esq., and levied toll at the gates. "Remnants of it," says Larwood, "were still traceable at the beginning of this century, on the high ground directly behind the farm house. A few very old trees are even now to be found on that spot. Some of these are indeed ancient enough to have formed part of the identical trees round which the wits and beauties drove in their carriages, and, as Pennant says, 'in their rotation exchanged as they passed, smiles and nods, compliments or smart repartees.'

"Plain as it was, it must have been a pleasant spot on a summer's afternoon. Situated on an upland space of ground, one may imagine the pleasurable prospect from hence when all around was open country, and nothing intercepted the view, from the Surrey hills to the high grounds of Hampstead and Highgate. One can imagine how delightful it must have been for the ladies who came in their carriages from the hot play house, and the close, confined, sweltering streets of dirty old London, to be fanned by soft winds which blew over broad acres of ripening corn, flowering clover, and new mown hay, or rustled through the reeds and willows on the banks of the pools."

G. Harpst.

A Sketch at Grosvenor Gate

"The Ring" was a celebrated place for duels during the latter half of the eighteenth century, and many distinguished persons acted ridiculous parts in that absurd but fashionable custom of the "good old times."

Between the Ring and the Serpentine was fought on the 15th of November, 1712, the celebrated and sanguinary duel between Charles Lord Mohun, and James, fourth Duke of Hamilton. High and angry words having passed between them, Lord Mohun rose, and the following day sent his friend, General Macartney, to the Duke, challenging him to a sword duel in Hyde Park. Lord Mohun came attended by General Macartney, and the Duke by Colonel Hamilton. On the ground the Duke happening to taunt Macartney with being the cause of the duel, the latter expressed his readiness to join in the conflict, to which the Duke, pointing to Colonel Hamilton, observed—"There is my friend; he will take his share in my dance." Both principals and seconds then drew their swords and engaged at the same moment. Mohun and the Duke each received a fatal wound, the former dying on the spot, and the other immediately afterwards.

"This morning at eight," writes Swift to Stella on the day of the duel, "my man brought me word that Duke Hamilton had fought with Lord Mohun and killed him, and was brought home wounded. I immediately sent him to the Duke's house in St. James's Square; but the porter could hardly answer for tears, and a great rabble was about the house. In short, they fought till seven this morning. The dog Mohun was killed on the spot; and while the Duke was over him Mohun shortened his sword, and stabbed him in the shoulder to the heart. The Duke was helped towards the Cake House, by the Ring in Hyde Park, where they fought, and died on the grass before they could reach the house, and was brought home in his coach by eight, while the poor Duchess was asleep. Macartney and one Hamilton were the seconds, who fought likewise, and are both fled. I am told that a footman of Lord Mohun's stabbed Duke Hamilton, and some say Macartney did so too. Mohun gave the affront and yet sent the challenge." A short time afterwards, Colonel Hamilton, the Duke's second, was tried at the Old Bailey, and acquitted. General Macartney surrendered himself to take his trial the following

year, when Hamilton swore positively that he was the person who gave the Duke the fatal wound. The jury, however, seem to have placed but little faith in his evidence, for Macartney was merely found guilty of manslaughter, and Colonel Hamilton, to avoid a prosecution for perjury, fled to the Continent, where he died within four months. General Macartney survived till 1730.

The spot of ground, between the Ring and the Serpentine, on which the Duke of Hamilton and Lord Mohun lost their lives, is the same apparently as that which Fielding, in his *Amelia*, mentions as the usual meeting-place for duellists of the last century.

The notorious John Wilkes met Samuel Martin, M.P., in mortal combat in Hyde Park on the 16th November, 1763. Four shots were fired, and by the last Wilkes was wounded. The demands of honour were vindicated, and Martin fled to Paris to escape any unpleasant consequence which might arise. It is a rather remarkable fact that upon that very day Wilkes's scandalous "Essay on Woman" was laid on the table of the House of Lords by Lord Sandwich.

Another remarkable duel took place in Hyde Park in October, 1765, between Lieutenant Redmond McGragh, an Irishman, and four opponents. The gallant Hibernian—a famous swordsman—disarmed them all, and only received a slight wound in his right arm. In December, 1767, two brothers fought a duel in Hyde Park with reference to a beauty with whom they were intimate, and one was mortally wounded.

Sheridan, the celebrated wit and dramatist, and Captain Thomas Matthews, met near "the Ring" in July, 1772, for the purpose of fighting a duel, but their design was frustrated. Owing to the number of persons present they could not fight, and, in the hope of finding the place quieter later on, adjourned to the Hercules' Pillars for a time, but finding no available spot in the Park, free enough from spectators, they finally went to the Castle Tavern, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, and there fought.

In March, 1775, not less than five duels came off in Hyde Park. The place had become a recognized duelling-ground, but it will not be necessary to give particulars of all these sanguinary meetings. One or two more will suffice.

On the 17th of March, 1776, George Garrick, a brother of the

famous David, and James Baddesley, an actor of Drury Lane, met to fight a duel near "the Ring," in consequence of Garrick having flirted with Mrs. Baddesley. The lady, however, appeared on the scene before any serious harm was done, and by her intercession brought about an amicable settlement of the dispute to the mutual satisfaction of everybody concerned. On the 26th of November, 1777, there was a hostile meeting between the Hon. Charles James Fox, M.P., and Mr. William Adams, M.P., in consequence of some personal misunderstanding. Fox was slightly wounded. William, 2nd Earl of Shelburne (afterwards the first Marquis of Lansdowne), was wounded by Colonel Fullerton, M.P., in a duel in Hyde Park, on the 22nd of March, 1780.

REVIEWS IN HYDE PARK.

The first mention of a review in Hyde Park is that which relates to the review in the time of Queen Elizabeth. It was held on the 28th day of March, 1569, when Her Majesty mustered there the Queen's Pensioners, who were well appointed in armour, on horseback, and arrayed in green cloth and white—the colours of the Tudor family. The corps was commanded by Lord Hunsdon, the Park-keeper, and for this reason, probably, the review was held in the Park.

Charles II. had a military review in Hyde Park on September 27th, 1662. The Life Guards had been formed whilst the King was still in Holland. The first eighty were raised there from among the remnants of the Cavalier army, who still continued hanging about the proscribed king, and were put under the command of Lord Gerrard of Brandon. The rest of the corps, consisting of three troops, was formed after the Restoration. They were mostly young men; and their uniform was very picturesque. They wore round Cavalier hats, with a profusion of white feather, scarlet coats covered with gold lace, wide sleeves slashed in front, large white linen collars turned over the neck, scarlet sashes round their waists, jack boots up to the middle of the thigh, and large ruffles round the wrist. Their horses were slender and slightly built, not very high, but spirited, sure-footed, swift, and well-trained. They were all black, and their long tails on field days were tied up with ribbons. Their heads and manes were similarly ornamented. These ribbons in the first troop were blue, in the second green, in the third yellow.

In this brilliant costume they must have presented a splendid sight as they rode past the king, with the butt-ends of their carbines resting on their thighs, and their crimson silken standard fluttering in the air.

In July, 1664, there was a grand review of the Guards in Hyde Park, and Pepys gives us, in his *Diary*, an amusing sketch of the event. He tells us that he intended to hire a coach to the Park, "but they demand so high, that I spying Mr. Cutler, the merchant, did take notice of him, and he going into his coach, and telling me that he was going to the muster, I asked and went along with him; where a goodly sight to see so many fine horses and officers, and the King, Duke, and others come by a horseback, and the two Queenes in the Queene-Mother's coach (my Lady Castlemaine not being there). And after long being there, I light, and walked to the place where the King, Duke, &c., did stand to see the horse and foot march by and discharge their guns, to show a French Marquisse (for whom this muster was caused) the goodness of our firemen; which indeed was very good, though not without a slip now and then; and one broadside close to our coach we had going out of the Park, even to the nearnesse as to be ready to burn our hairs. Yet methought all these gay men are not the soldiers that must do the King's business, it being such as these that lost the old King all he had, and were beat by the most ordinary fellows that could be. Thence with much ado out of the Park, and through St. James's down the waterside over to Lambeth."

There was a grand parade in Hyde Park of all the Guards stationed in and near London, on the 16th of September, 1668, upon the occasion of the appointment of the Duke of Monmouth as Captain and Colonel of the Life Guards.

On the 28th of January, 1682, the Guards went through their evolutions in Hyde Park, in honour of the Ambassadors of the Sultan of Morocco.

More recent military reviews have been held in Hyde Park in 1860, 1864, and 1866. Riotous meetings and disturbances have upon several occasions taken place in Hyde Park. During the Gordon Riots, in 1780, troops were encamped here; during June and July, 1855, riotous assemblies met here to denounce Lord Robert Grosvenor's Sunday

Trading Bill; and collisions between the followers of Garibaldi and the supporters of the Pope, in which several people were injured, took place on 28th September and 5th October, 1862.

The 23rd of July, 1866, was a very memorable day in the history of the Park. It was announced that a monster Reform Meeting would be held on that day in Hyde Park, and the Government, fearing a riot, ordered the Park gates to be closed. An enormous crowd had assembled near the Marble Arch, and being unable to enter the Park by the ordinary gateways, which were strongly guarded by the police, they overturned a great extent of railing in the Bayswater Road, but especially along Park Lane, and entered the Park bodily. A severe conflict took place, and many members both of the police and the public were seriously injured. Some of the Grenadier and Life Guards were called out to assist in keeping order, but the meeting was held in spite of their presence, and some resolutions, in no way flattering to the Government, were carried.

THE FOUR-IN-HAND CLUB.

The "Four-in-Hand Club" was originally limited to fifty members, who, on grand occasions, used to turn out about twenty-four teams. The difficulty of finding places within a convenient distance from London with suitable accommodation for more than a hundred persons to sit down to luncheon or dinner was the only reason of this limitation of members. There was no idea of exclusiveness, but of course the guests who accompanied the distinguished owners had to be suitably entertained.

The "Coaching Club" was founded to remedy the small number of members admitted into the older and more famous club.

These clubs have their annual "meet" in Hyde Park, close by the Magazine, on a given day, usually in the week preceding that of the great Epsom races. The coaches begin to assemble soon after mid-day, and large numbers of spectators congregate to see the magnificent turn-outs, perhaps quite as much as to see the *élite* of the fashionable world, who are always present upon these occasions, and among whose number some members of the Royal Family are generally included.

The coaches are built upon the plan of the old-fashioned mail-coaches of our grandfathers' days, and cost about five hundred pounds

each; and the four horses harnessed to each coach are generally worth double that sum.

When all are assembled, a tour is made around Hyde Park, and then the journey is continued into the country somewhere for lunch.

ROTTEN ROW.

As early as March, 1781, a portion of Hyde Park was mentioned under this name, and although it appears to have been at that time a well-known locality, its exact position is not at present known. It is probable, however, that it originally extended from Hyde Park Corner to Queen's Gate. A supplementary ride has been laid out on the other side of the Serpentine, and runs from the Magazine by Victoria Gate to Cumberland Gate. From Hyde Park Corner to Queen's Gate, runs also a carriage drive, and the site of the Great Exhibition of 1851 lies between. For two or three hours every afternoon in the season, except Sunday, the particular portion of the drive which happens that year to be the fashion is densely thronged with carriages moving round and round at little more than walking pace, and every now and then coming to a dead-lock. The portion of the road specially affected varies from time to time, but is usually either that along the north side of the Serpentine or that between Hyde Park Corner and Queen's Gate.

Rotten Row,
Hyde Park

CHAPTER IV.

THE SERPENTINE AND HYDE PARK CORNER.

The River Westbourne.—Queen Caroline's Improvements.—The formation of the Serpentine.—Pools and Watercourses in Hyde Park.—Water Supply for Westminster.—Skating on the Serpentine.—Severe Winters.—Henry Hunt drives a coach and four horses across the Serpentine.—Hyde Park Corner.—The Turnpike Toll House.—The Entrance Gate to Hyde Park.—The Wellington Arch.—The Equestrian Statue of the Duke of Wellington.—Boehm's new Statue.—Defensive Earthworks.

THE SERPENTINE.

AT one time the River Westbourne was a watercourse of some importance, and the most distant of its numerous springs was situated on Hampstead Heath. Its course was through West Hampstead, Kilburn, Bayswater, and through the middle of Hyde Park. Here, at a point close by the Magazine, it received the waters of Tyburn Brook, a small tributary stream running in a well-defined depression across the Park from north to south. On the space now occupied by the artificial lake, the old river Westbourne had a very serpentine course, which would have amply justified the name of Serpentine River which was afterwards given to the enlarged sheet of water, although nothing of a serpentine character is observable in its present shape.

In the year 1730, Queen Caroline conceived the idea of improving the appearance of Hyde Park by draining the pools and making the Westbourne into a more extensive stream. In order to do this, one of the two lodges, styled "the old lodge," and part of a grove, had to be destroyed. The direction of the whole undertaking was entrusted to Charles Withers, Esq., Surveyor-General of his Majesty's Woods and Forests, and it was

he who gave the Serpentine its present form. It is thought probable that the Queen gave the name of Serpentine to the new piece of water, and undoubtedly it was given in allusion to the former naturally sinuous course of the river.

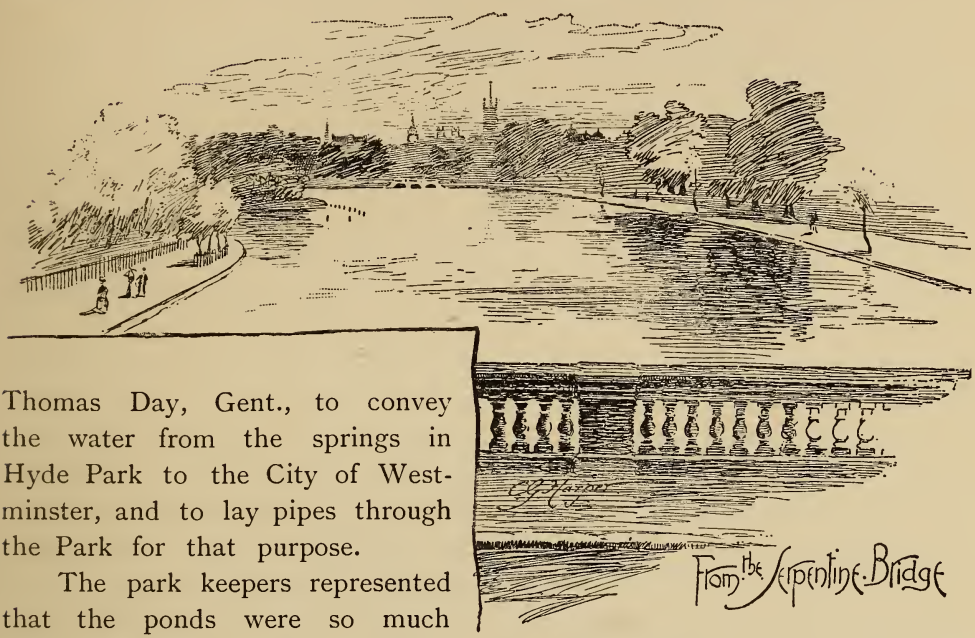
Queen Caroline was a woman of some taste, and took delight in improving the various royal parks. The King believed that it was all paid for out of her own money, and good-humouredly refused to look at her plans, saying he did not care how much of her own money she flung away. He little suspected that the aid of Walpole furnished her with means from the royal treasury, and it was only at the Queen's death that this little trick of Walpole's policy came to light, for then it appeared that £20,000 of the King's money had been expended by her Majesty upon these various improvements.

At the formation of the Serpentine there appears to have been some intention of erecting a palace in the Park, for the papers of the day tell us: "Next Monday (October 5th, 1730) they begin the Serpentine River and Royal Mansion in Hyde Park. Mr. Ripley is to build the house, and Mr. Jepherson to make the river, under the direction of Charles Withers, Esq."

Two hundred men were employed on this great work. The excavation made was four hundred yards in length, one hundred yards in breadth, and forty feet deep, and the expense of making it was estimated at six thousand pounds. The sum of £2,500 had to be paid to the Chelsea Waterworks Company in order to cancel the lease granted in 1663 to Thomas Haines, and to purchase and remove their pipes, which were laid through the Park.

The pools and watercourses in Hyde Park had been previously used to supply various parts of London and Westminster with water. Thus James's Queen, Anne of Denmark, who lived in Somerset House, caused the water to be brought in pipes from Hyde Park to that palace. Westminster Palace, also, was provided with water from the same source, and in 1617, the Earl of Suffolk obtained licence to have a small pipe for conveying water to Suffolk House (on the site afterwards occupied by Northumberland House, Charing Cross), inserted in the main pipe which ran from the Park to Westminster Palace. Three years after, in 1620, the Dean and Chapter of Westminster obtained permission to

carry water, arising out of four springs in Hyde Park, to their conduit pipe. In the same year the King granted letters patent to



Thomas Day, Gent., to convey the water from the springs in Hyde Park to the City of Westminster, and to lay pipes through the Park for that purpose.

The park keepers represented that the ponds were so much drained by these pipes that there was not sufficient water left for the deer, and the letters patent were revoked by a writ of the King's Bench in the reign of Charles I. In 1663, Charles II. granted to Thomas Haines of Westminster, all the springs and conduits in the Park, to hold for ninety-nine years, at an annual rent of six shillings and eightpence. About the same time also water was brought in pipes from Hyde Park to Whitehall, at a cost of £1,700. The lease to Thomas Haines was cancelled, as before stated, when the River was turned into a lake.

Charles Withers, who had the direction of the new works under his control, died before they were finished, and was succeeded by Kimberly. The undertaking, however, appears to have progressed rapidly; for as early as the month of May, 1731, the river was sufficiently deep to allow ten yachts to be placed upon it for the diversion of the royal family." By the end of 1733 the Serpentine appears to have been finished, but the improvements still went on. In September, 1736, a basin, 300 yards

in circumference, was made at the end of the Serpentine, between the bridges over which the old and new road crossed the pools. This basin was to receive the waste water from the Serpentine, and an engine was placed under the new bridge to throw the water back into the Kensington Gardens.

Up to 1834, the Serpentine obtained a supply of water from the River Westbourne, which was led into it by a subterranean conduit, underneath the Paddington Canal and through Bayswater. Heavy falls of rain would of course make this rivulet rise: its swollen waters were then carried to the Serpentine, and the consequence was that the river overflowed its bounds. Such accidents are occasionally reported in the old papers, as in February, 1737, when we are told that the Serpentine "blew up," whereby Knightsbridge, Brompton, and other places were inundated. But in course of time the Westbourne became a still greater nuisance. When the district in its vicinity was built over, the drains of many of the houses found their way into this stream, and the water became too impure to be of any good service for feeding the Serpentine. It was, therefore, cut off in 1834, and transformed into a sewer, in connection with those which run from the Uxbridge Road to the Thames.

From the early years of its history, whenever the weather has been of sufficient severity to form ice of the necessary strength and thickness, this river has been the scene of skating. During the severe winter of 1767, large numbers of people were seen daily skating upon the Serpentine, and a bet of fifty pounds was decided there in January between two gentlemen, one of whom was to skate a mile within a minute. He performed the task with ease in 57 seconds. A few days later, an Irish chairman skated eight miles on the Serpentine for a wager of five guineas. He was allowed ten minutes, but performed the feat in nine minutes and eight seconds.

The winter of 1784 was again sufficiently severe to freeze the Serpentine, and according to contemporary newspaper descriptions there never was a more brilliant exhibition than that miniature river afforded on Sunday, the 1st of February, 1784. Ministers, Lords, and Members of Parliament, were all on skates, crossing, jostling, and over-throwing one another, with as much dexterity and as little ceremony as they were

SKATING SCENE *in* HYDE PARK.
1785.

From a Contemporary Print

A Bernard Lyon.

wont to do at St. Stephen's. Among the aristocratic skaters, Frederick Howard, fifth Earl of Carlisle, bore off the honours. Among the commoners, Benjamin West, the historical painter, and one Dr. Hewitt were considered the best; they even danced a minuet on their skates to the admiration of the spectators. In December of the following winter skating was again in full swing on the Serpentine, and much aristocratic society was attracted to the locality. George, Prince of Wales, clad in a fur pelisse (the lining of which cost £800) and large black muff, was one of the spectators. The fair sex showed marked masculine tendency in the fashions of their costumes, wearing a regular man's great coat and morocco half boots.

An amusing engraving, entitled "Skaiting Scene in Hyde Park," was published with *The Wit's Magazine* of January, 1785, and the short descriptive article which accompanies it, is signed "Mercutio."

The characters, although overdrawn even to the verge of caricature, are full of animation and meaning. In the foreground, upon a wooden stool, sits a gentleman shivering in the cold, nipping air, although enveloped in a top-coat and capacious muff, whilst a man fastens his skates to his feet. Another gentleman of corpulent build has tumbled, full-length, upon the ice, much to the terror of a dog, which, in attempting to avoid unpleasant consequences, gets in the way of another skater with a wooden leg. The result is that the bottle and glass he lately held are thrown from his hands by the force of the collision with the poor dog. Two ladies are represented in the fashionable shirt-fronted costume of the period, and several minor details serve to make up an interesting picture.

In December, 1805, the winter was very severe, and there was again skating on the frozen Serpentine. Deshays, a famous male dancer of the Opera House, shared with Tom Sheridan the popular admiration for agility and grace. The frost of January, 1810, was only of short duration, but there was some clever skating on the Serpentine, and the graceful performances of a young Dutch lady attracted general attention. Very little dress was worn, and there was no lack of fashionable nudes. It has been sarcastically remarked that in those days milliners and tradesmen dreaded the approach of summer, fearing that there would

then be no clothes worn at all, and that their occupation would be gone.

The cold was so intense in January, 1826, the thermometer dropping to twenty degrees below freezing point, that the waters of the Serpentine were covered by a thick stratum of ice. Large numbers indulged in the pastime of skating, and a writer in the *Annual Register* estimates that on the 17th of January a crowd of about a hundred thousand persons assembled on the ice. The chief event of the day, however, was the driving of a four-in-hand coach over the ice of the Serpentine. A contemporary caricature depicts the scene, which is described as "Henry Hunt, junr., driving his father's Blacking Van with 4 horses, across the Serpentine for a wager of 100 guineas, 17th of January, 1826."

Henry Hunt, the father of this daring individual, was originally a farmer, and afterwards took to political agitation and stump oratory. After several unsuccessful attempts he at length succeeded in getting a seat in Parliament as member for Preston. He died in 1835.

During the severe winter of 1890-91, when the ice on the water was of great thickness, Mr. J. V. Griffith, of Chilton Lodge, Percy Cross, Fulham, drove a vehicle with two horses tandem across the Serpentine. This event took place on the 16th of January, 1891, and on the 30th of the same month Mr. Griffith was fined a penalty of £5 and 2/- costs for the offence, at the Marlborough Street Police Court.

Larwood, in his interesting *Story of the London Parks*, figures an old elm tree with hollow trunk and widely extending branches, which formerly stood in Hyde Park near the Serpentine. It served for many years as the stall of a humorous cobbler.

HYDE PARK CORNER.

Now that the proportions of London have become so gigantic, it seems difficult to realize a time when Hyde Park Corner formed the western entrance to London, and Knightsbridge was merely a country road leading to the suburban village of Kensington. The turnpike, which originally stood at the end of Berkeley Street, was removed in 1721 to Hyde Park Corner, and here it remained until October, 1825, when

HYDE PARK CORNER TURNPIKE, WITH A VIEW OF ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL, 1797.

it was sold and cleared away. A writer in Hone's *Every Day Book (Vol. I., p. 1357)* says:—"The sale by auction of the 'toll-houses' on the north and south side of the road, with the 'weighing machine,' and lamp-posts at Hyde Park Corner, was effected by Mr. Abbott, the estate agent and appraiser, by order of the trustees of the roads. They were sold for building materials; the north toll-house was in five lots, the south in five other lots; the gates, rails, posts, and inscription boards were in five more lots; and the engine-house was also in five lots. At the same time, the weighing machine and toll-houses at Jenny's Whim bridge were sold in seven lots; and the toll-house near the Bun-house at Chelsea, with lamp posts on the road, were likewise sold in seven lots. The whole are entirely cleared away, to the relief of thousands of persons resident in these neighbourhoods."

In the latter part of the last century Sir John Soane drew up a design for a triumphal arch surmounted by an equestrian statue, as an entrance to Hyde Park from Piccadilly, the cost of which, exclusive of the statue, was estimated at £10,000. It was approved by George III., and exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1796, but the execution of it was postponed on account of the large estimated cost. It was proposed to erect a similar arch, as an entrance to St. James's Park, on the opposite side of the street. Engravings of these designs were published in 1828 in Sir John Soane's *Designs for Public and Private Buildings;* and in the description of the plates, Sir John says:—"Subsequently I made designs to commemorate the splendid victories of Trafalgar and Waterloo and to connect the western entrance into the Metropolis with those into the Royal Parks. One of these compositions was exhibited in the Royal Academy in 1817 and another in 1826.

"In composing these designs, the general idea of which was suggested by the entrance into the Acropolis at Athens, I considered that appropriate character and suitable magnificence, utility and economy, would be best consulted by combining the entrances into the Metropolis and Royal Parks, with the lodges and other appurtenances belonging thereto, so that the whole should make one uniform pile."

The entrance to Hyde Park, consisting of a triple archway designed by Decimus Burton, was completed in the year 1828. The fine friezes,

after the Elgin marbles, were designed by Archibald Henning, and the gates by Messrs. Bramah.

The triumphal arch generally called the Wellington Arch, which until recent years stood opposite, was built about the same time from the designs of Burton, and was an adaptation of the Arch of Titus at Rome. It was originally intended as a private entrance to Buckingham Palace; and in contemporary engravings is called the entrance or lodge to the King s Palace; and in the *Penny Magazine* for 1832, "George IV.'s gate;" but the road from Constitution Hill was subsequently turned to allow of public access. A colossal equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington, by Matthew Cotes Wyatt, was placed on its summit in the year 1846. The enormous size of the statue may be best realized from an incident in its history. A little while before its completion, and while it was still in the artist's studio, the body of the horse was fitted up as a refectory, and twelve gentlemen sat down within it, and drank to the health of Mr. Wyatt in what must have been a rather uncomfortable position. Whatever may have been the merits of the colossal statue, its position upon the top of the triumphal arch was inappropriate, and was universally condemned by art critics.

The statue was taken down and removed to Aldershot, in July, 1884, when the arch was shifted, and the thoroughfare widened. A new equestrian statue of the Duke by Sir J. E. Boehm, R.A., was in 1888 placed in the open space opposite the entrance to Hyde Park.

Thackeray mentions the old statue in *Vanity Fair*, where he speaks of it as "the hideous equestrian monster."

Early in March, 1643, a bill was passed in Parliament ordering that the City and suburbs should be surrounded by a strong earthen rampart, with bastions and redoubts. Shortly afterwards an order was made by the Common Council that the Ministers in the several parishes of the City should "stir up" the parishioners in the churches, "to send such of their servants and children as were fit to labour with spades, shovels, and other necessary tools, to help and assist at raising the outworks of the city, which is very needful to be finished." The work was commenced on the first of May, 1643, and a large square fort with four bastions was erected on the spot where Hamilton Place,

TRIUMPHAL ARCH & DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S STATUE.

Piccadilly, now is, which at that time was the limit of Hyde Park on that side.

All available hands seem to have been employed in helping forward with the work of constructing this defensive earthwork. Some brought provisions for the men who worked, and even ladies of rank took up spade and basket, and worked in the trenches. The most prominent among these volunteers appear to have been Lady Middlesex, Lady Foster, Lady Ann Waller, and Mrs. Dunch. The last-named lady is supposed to have been Cromwell's cousin, a daughter of Mary Dunch, of Little Whittenham, who herself was one of the twenty-nine children of Sir Oliver Cromwell, of Cheshunt Park, elder brother of Richard Cromwell, the reported brewer of Huntingdon, and Oliver's father.

The fort at Hyde Park Corner remained standing for four years, and was demolished in 1647, by order of the House of Commons, as there was then no further use for it. Other forts were constructed for the same purpose, and at the same time, at what are now Mount Street, Constitution Hill, Victoria Station, and Tothill Fields.

About 40 yards west of Hamilton Place was the street mentioned by Faulkner as deriving its name from the Hamilton Family. It contained twenty small houses, and two or three on a larger scale. They were pulled down, and Hamilton Place built about the year 1806.

CHAPTER V.

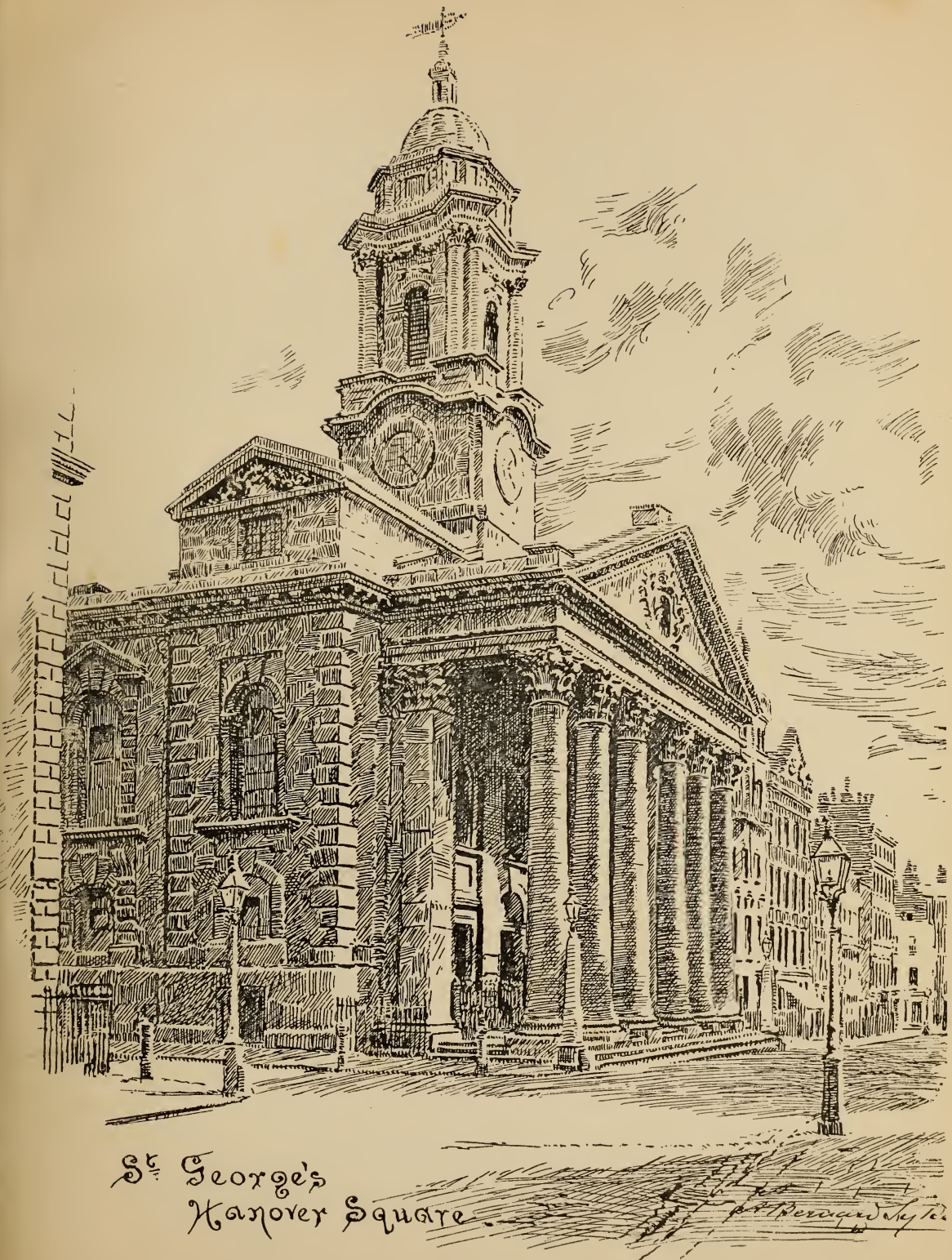
ECCLESIASTICAL BUILDINGS.

St. George's Church, Hanover Square.—Architecture.—"Jesse" Window.—Internal arrangements.—Altar Piece.—Carvings by Grinling Gibbons.—Dr. Dodd.—Fashionable Marriages.—Marriage of the Duke of Sussex.—Burial-Ground of St. George's, Hanover Square.—Mortuary Chapel.—Grave of Laurence Sterne.—St. George's Chapel, Mayfair.—Rev. Alexander Keith.—Clandestine Marriages.—Marriage of the Duke of Hamilton.—Other celebrated marriages.—Hanover Chapel, Regent Street.—Grosvenor Chapel.—St. Mark's Church, North Audley Street.—Holy Trinity Church, Conduit Street.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, HANOVER SQUARE.

ONE of the proposed fifty new churches, built according to an Act of Parliament early in the 18th century, was that of St. George, Hanover Square. The main object of this scheme was to provide church accommodation in the place of those ecclesiastical buildings which had been destroyed by the Great Fire of London in the previous century. The Act was passed in 1711, and on the 20th of June, 1712, the first stone of the new church in Hanover Square was laid by General Stewart. This stone was placed in the east wall, the General striking it several times with a mallet, and then making a libation of wine, pronouncing the benediction, "The Lord God of heaven preserve the Church of St. George." The site for the church was presented by General Stewart, who subsequently bequeathed to the parish the sum of four thousand pounds, towards erecting and endowing a charity school therein.

As a mark of honour to the reigning monarch, the church was dedicated to St. George the Martyr. It was consecrated by Edmund Gibson, Bishop of London, on the 23rd of March, 1724. The new parish, consisting of the two out-wards of the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, was constituted as a distinct parish on the 18th of March,



St. George's
Hanover Square

1725, by Act of Parliament, which gave the perpetual advowson of the rectory to the Bishop of London and his successors.

The architect of the church was John James, and the building is generally admitted to be one of the finest of its kind in London. The west front has a commanding and noble aspect. A fine portico of six Corinthian columns supports an entablature and pediment. On the apex is a base which may have been intended to support a statue. Behind the columns are pilasters to support the architrave. The cornice of the entablature extends round the north and east sides, which are in bold rustic work. The south side, which is almost concealed, is quite plain. The portico has been pronounced second only to the finely-proportioned portico of the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The steeple, although enriched by but few ornamental features, is upon the whole, grand and majestic. It consists of a tower, rising from the roof, and contains a handsome clock. The steeple that rises from this tower is an octagon, with double Corinthian columns at the four sides. The capitals are surmounted by vases, and between the respective couples of columns are festoons of flowers. Above these columns rises a magnificent entablature, surmounted by a cupola, or dome, and a small turret, on the top of which is a ball and vane of gilt copper.

The church contains a good Jesse window of 16th century work, brought from Mechlin by the Marquis of Ely, purchased by public subscription, and placed in the church in 1841, with additions by T. Willement.

Malcolm gives a rather melancholy picture of the internal arrangements of the church:—"There certainly never was a greater contrast in architecture designed by the same person than is observable in this church, the front of which equals the temples of the ancients, and the interior would almost disgrace the worst of their productions. It is dark, disproportioned, and the orders are inverted in their gradations; the six *Composite* pillars of the nave are elevated on the same number of Tuscan, two *Ionic* pillars support the organ-gallery, and the sides of the sacrarium consist of two *Tuscan* pillars with a *Composite* arch; the vaults of the nave contain Tuscan panels, and the arches of the aisles Corinthian lozenges with decorations.

"A large picture of the Last Supper, said to be the work of Sir

James Thornhill, covers the whole of the altar-piece beneath a Venetian window, except two pillars and part of the architrave: there are very many excellent touches in this painting, particularly in the heads, but several defects in the colouring and lighting of the group.

"A branch with four large lamps burning is suspended over the table, but the superior light of day appears to enter we see not where, which obscures the flames, and renders them merely dim spots of white. Besides this error, the drapery seems to have faded, and the limbs are clumsy.

"The pulpit, desk, and organ, are handsome; and neat panels on the galleries are inscribed with the names of the wardens in succession; but there are no monuments, nor any interments in the church."

The fine wood carvings near the altar, and in other parts of the church, are said to be the workmanship of Grinling Gibbons. That which decorates the seats of the churchwardens is very good, and although the carving around the painting is also good, the light is unfortunately not good enough to show it up. To remedy this defect the carvings have been gilt. The interior of the church was re-decorated by Ferry in 1871.

The living of St. George's, Hanover Square, is one of the richest in London, being worth at the present time, according to *The Clergy List* for 1891, £1,120 per annum.

It was by an indirect attempt to procure this valuable rectory, that the unfortunate Dr. Dodd was first ruined in the public estimation.

To relieve himself from those difficulties which long-continued habits of extravagance had brought upon him, he took a most dishonourable step. On the preferment of Dr. Moss to the see of Bath and Wells, in the year 1774, this rectory fell to the disposal of the Crown: upon which Dr. Dodd caused an anonymous letter to be written to Lady Apsley, offering the sum of £3,000, and an annuity of £500, if by her means he could be presented to the living. But his scheme was unfortunate, for the letter was immediately communicated to the Chancellor, and, after having been traced to the sender, was laid before the King. His name was ordered to be struck out of the list of chaplains; the press abounded with satire and invective; he was abused and ridiculed in the public journals in the most unmerciful manner; and,

to crown the whole, the scandalous transaction became the subject of public ridicule by being introduced into one of Foote's pieces at the Haymarket Theatre.

It is impossible to justify Dr. Dodd's conduct in this simoniacal attempt; but, surely, it was not necessary to drive him to desperation; and, by the severe measures which were adopted, totally to destroy him. There was but little delicacy manifested towards this ingenious but improvident and erring man by Lady Apsley. He might have been prevented from ever making a similar attempt, by being struck off the list of royal chaplains; and possibly a proper and becoming rebuke from the bishop of his diocese, given in a private way, might have saved a valuable life, and restored and reclaimed a man who was calculated to be an ornament to his profession, and a blessing to society.

From an early date in its history the church of St. George, Hanover Square, has been remarkable on account of the numerous fashionable marriages solemnized within its walls. On the 8th of March, 1769, the Duke of Kingston was married to Miss Chudleigh, her first husband, Mr. Hervey, afterwards Earl of Bristol, being then alive. She is described in the register as a spinster. Her trial for bigamy is among the *causes célèbres*. In 1771, Richard Cosway was married to Maria Hatfield, and the bride was given away by Charles Townley, the collector of the Townley Marbles, now in the British Museum. On the 6th of September, 1791, Sir William Hamilton was married to Emma Harte, the lady whose history was afterwards so intimately associated with that of Lord Nelson.

Perhaps the most remarkable marriage at St. George's, Hanover Square, was that between Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex, and Augusta Murray, daughter of the fourth Earl of Dunmore. On the 4th of April, 1793, they had been secretly united in Rome by an English clergyman of the name of Gunn, and on the 5th of the following December, the ceremony was repeated at this church in Hanover Square, without any suspicion of the identity of the two contracting parties, although the marriage banns had been read in the names of Augustus Frederick and Augusta Murray.

It was decided to summon the rector and curates before the Privy Council, and the marriage was declared by the Prerogative Court to be

void under the terms of the Royal Marriage Act. Sir John Scott, better known by his subsequent title of Lord Eldon, gives the following humorous account of the matter:—"Great blame was imputed to the rector for publishing the banns without inquiry as to the residence of the parties in the parish: so it was proposed to call upon the clergy of the church, St. George's, Hanover Square, to account for the marriage having taken place by banns, without the proper residence of the party in the parish, and without their knowing the parties. The rector first appeared: he said he had two most respectable curates, and he had always most solemnly enjoined them not to marry parties without having enquired first about their residence. The curates were then examined, and they said theirs was a most respectable parish clerk, who wore a gown, and they had always most solemnly given a like injunction to him. The clerk was then called, and he declared that no man in the parish had a more excellent careful wife than he had, and that he daily gave her most solemnly a like injunction. She then made her appearance, and said that she must sometimes be about her own, and not about parish business; but that she had two female servants, as discreet as any in the parish, and she had always given them a like solemn injunction, when anybody brought a paper about publication of banns in her or her husband's absence, to make proper inquiries about the parties' residence. All this put Lord Thurlow out of humour, and he then said to me angrily, 'Sir, why have you not prosecuted under the Act of Parliament all the parties concerned in this abominable marriage?' To which I answered, 'That it was a very difficult business to prosecute—that the Act, it was understood, had been drawn by Lord Mansfield, *and Mr. Attorney-General Thurlow*, and Mr. Solicitor-General Wedderburn, and unluckily they had made all parties present at the marriage guilty of felony; and as nobody could prove the marriage except a person who had been present at it, there could be no prosecution, because nobody present could be compelled to be a witness.' This put an end to the matter. Afterwards there was a suit in the House of Commons, and the marriage was there declared void."

On May-day, 1797, the twelfth Earl of Derby was married to the celebrated actress, Elizabeth Farran (at that time residing in Green Street), and although the ceremony did not take place in the church, the

S^t GEORGE, HANOVER SQUARE
THIS BURIAL GROUND WAS ENCLOSED
AND CONSECRATED MDCCLXIV
RICHARD LONG ESQ^R
R^T HON^BLE LORD BOSTON
CHURCH-WARDENS
C. J. Harper

following entry of it occurs in the parish register :—"The Rt. Hon. Edward Smith Stanley, Earl of Derby, W., and Elizabeth Farran, S., Married by Special License in the dwelling-house of the Earl of Derby in Grosvenor Sq." The witnesses signing the register were "Stanley," Margaret Farran, and Charlotte Hornby.

Another interesting entry in the Register, recording the marriage of Lord Moira (afterwards Marquis of Hastings) with the Countess of Loudoun on the 12th July, 1804, bears the signature, as one of the witnesses, of the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV.

It would be easy, if necessary, to give a long list of celebrated people who have been married at St. George's, Hanover Square, but such a list is unnecessary, as the Registers have been printed by the Harleian Society as in the case of those of Mayfair Chapel. One other celebrated marriage, however, deserves to be mentioned. On the 6th of May, 1880, "George Eliot" was married at St. George's, Hanover Square, to John Walter Cross.

On the 24th of May, 1757, Dr. John Gilbert, Archbishop of York, was confirmed in this church in his appointment by Dr. Hatton, Archbishop of Canterbury; and on the 28th of July, 1891, Dr. Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury, confirmed Dr. Maclagan, as the newly-elected Archbishop of York.

The burial-ground of St. George's, Hanover Square, is situated just off Oxford Street, near the Marble Arch, and between Albion Street and Stanhope Street. It is a beautifully quiet and secluded area, almost entirely enclosed by tall houses, well wooded with a profusion of trees, and ornamented with some borders of old-fashioned flowers. It has long been closed for the purpose of burial, but every day its gates are open to visitors who are required to sign their names upon entering. The mortuary chapel and other buildings attached had a plain, unostentatious appearance which well accorded with the solemn and sacred surroundings. Upon the eve of this volume going to press, however, the chapel is being partially taken down, and the plans of a new and enlarged building, to serve as a wayside chapel, are marked out on the grass; but fortunately an artist's pen has preserved the fashion of the old building, and his drawing is reproduced in this book.

A large number of interments have been made in the burial-

ground which comprises a space of about four acres. Chief among them in point of general interest is the grave of Laurence Sterne.

Sterne's memorial, a high but plain flat head-stone, stands near the centre of the west wall of the cemetery, under the shade of the trees. It bears the following curious inscription :—

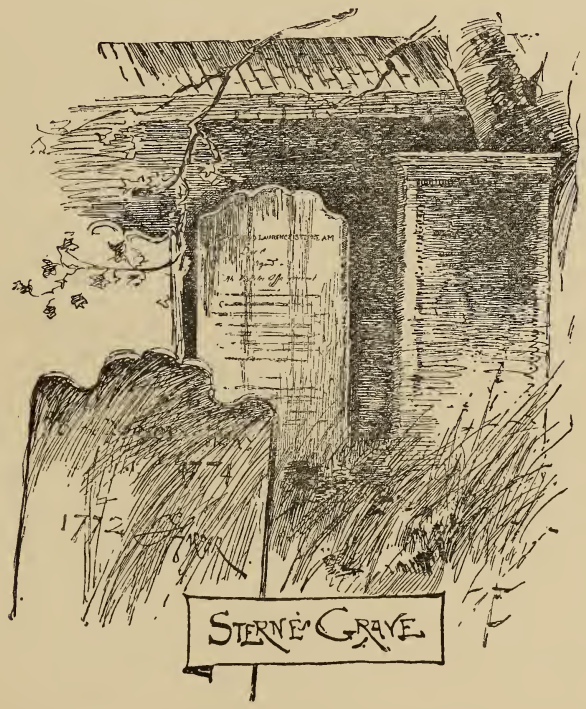
"Alas, Poor Yorick.
Near to this Place
Lies the body of
The Reverend LAURENCE STERNE
Dyed September 13 1768
Aged 53 Years.
Ah! Molliter, ossa quiescant.

If a sound head, warm heart and breast humane
Unsully'd worth, and soul without a stain,
If mental powers could ever justly claim
The well won tribute of immortal fame,

Sterne was the Man who with gigantic stride
Mow'd down luxuriant follies far and wide,
Yet what though keenest knowledge of mankind
Unseal'd to him the Springs that move the mind.
What did it boot him, Ridicul'd, abus'd
By foes insulted and by prudes accus'd.
In his, mild reader, view thy future fate,
Like him despise what t'were a sin to hate.

This monumental stone was erected to the memory of the deceased by two *Brother Masons*, for although he did not live to be a member of their *Society*, yet all his uncomparable Performances evidently prove him to have acted by *Rule* and *Square*; they rejoice in this opportunity of perpetuating his high and unapproachable character to after ages. W. & S."

The inscription, in addition to its absurdity, contains a serious inaccuracy. Sterne actually died on the 18th of March, 1768, and



was buried on the 22nd of the same month. Two days after burial—on the night of the 24th of March—the corpse was stolen by body-

snatchers, and by them disposed of to a professor of anatomy at Cambridge. It is recorded by Traill, in his life of Sterne, that the professor invited a few scientific friends to witness a demonstration, and that among them was one who had been acquainted with Sterne, and who fainted with horror on recognizing in the already partially dissected subject the features of his friend.

The mortuary chapel contains many memorial tablets, and amongst them is one commemorating Sir Thomas Picton, K.C.B., who was mortally wounded in the Battle of Waterloo, and whose body was afterwards removed to St. Paul's Cathedral, where it was interred.

Among other eminent persons interred in this burial-ground were Henry, Viscount Harberton, who died on the 29th of November, 1829, and Ann Radcliffe, the novelist, who died in 1823.

ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, MAYFAIR.

This chapel, built about the year 1730, was one of those where the marriage ceremony was performed without obtaining a licence, or publication of banns, or consent of parents. These marriages were called clandestine marriages, and although irregular, were at that time perfectly valid and binding.

The Rev. Alexander Keith, being appointed to officiate there, began to marry *ad libitum*, and Lord Orford describes him as having constructed a very bishopric of revenue from the marriage-fees. He advertised in the newspapers the advantages of a wedding at his chapel at Mayfair. The then rector of St. George's, Hanover Square, Dr. Trebeck, commenced a suit against him at Doctors' Commons. He was decreed excommunicated on the 27th of October, 1742, and in April, 1743, he was committed to the Fleet Prison.

In the year 1742, whilst the marriages solemnized at St. George's, Hanover Square, numbered only forty, the number of those contracted at Mr. Keith's Chapel was upwards of seven hundred.

The General Advertiser, of the 20th July, 1744, contains the following advertisement:—

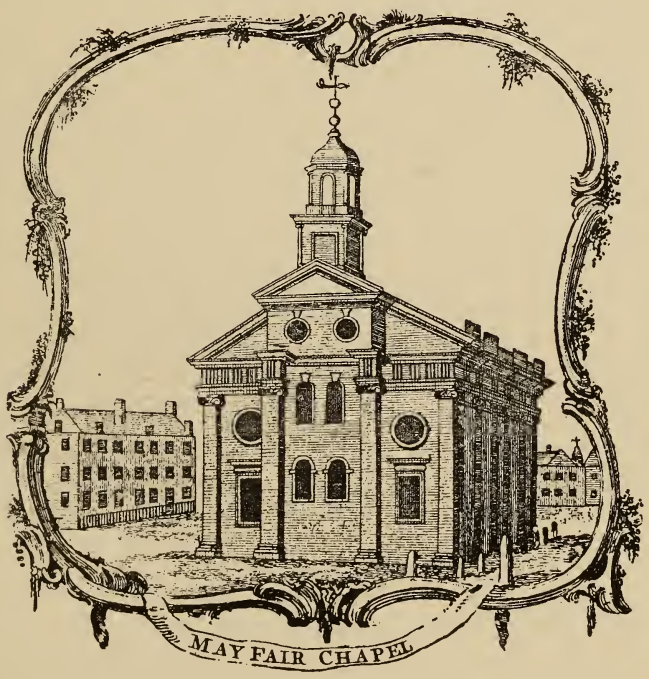
"To prevent mistakes, the little Chapel at May Fair, near Hyde Park Corner, is in the Corner House opposite to the City side of the Great Chapel, and within ten yards of it, and the Minister and Clerk

MAYFAIR CHAPEL (OR CURZON CHAPEL), ABOUT 1740.

live in the same Corner House where the little Chapel is, and the licence on a Crown Stamp, Minister and Clerk's Fees, together with the Certificate, amount to One Guinea as heretofore, at any Time 'till Four in the Afternoon: and that it may be better known, there is a Porch at the door like a Country Church Porch."

Again in *The London Gazette* of January 12th, 1749:—

"The way to Mr. Keith's Chapel is through Piccadilly, by the End of St. James's Street, and down Clarges Street, and turn on the Left-hand. The Marriages (together with a Licence on a Five Shilling Stamp and Certificate) are carried on for a Guinea, as usual, and Time till Four in the Afternoon, by another regular Clergyman, at Mr. Keith's Little Chapel in May-Fair, near Hyde-Park Corner, opposite the great Chapel and within Ten Yards of it. There is a Porch at the Door like a Country Church Porch."



These marriages were carried on in St. George's Chapel from 1735 to 1743 or 1744, and from then to 1754 at a private dwelling-house adjacent thereto. After the committal of Mr. Keith to prison in 1743,

there appears to have been a period during which the marriages were discontinued; but they were recommenced on the 30th May, 1744, and were celebrated by one of his assistants — the Rev. Peter Symson, Francis Denevau, the Rev. John Grierson, or Mr. Walker. Mr. Keith was probably in prison for about fifteen years, and died in the Fleet Prison on the 13th of December, 1758.

In 1753 he published a pamphlet entitled "Observations on the Act for preventing Clandestine Marriages." The passing of the Marriage Act put a stop to the clandestine marriages at May Fair; but the day before the Act came into operation (Lady Day, 1754), sixty-one couples were married there. Mr. Keith concluded his pamphlet with the following words:—"If the present Act in the form it now stands should (which I am sure is impossible) be of service to my country, I shall then have the satisfaction of having been the occasion of it, because the compilers thereof have done it with a pure design of suppressing my *Chapel*, which makes me the most celebrated man in this kingdom, though not the greatest."

No. 38 of *The Connoisseur* (October 1754) contains some satirical remarks on the effect of the Marriage Act on Mr. Keith's Chapel. The writer says:—"I received a scheme from my good friend Mr. Keith, whose Chapel the late Marriage Act has rendered useless on its original principles. The reverend gentleman, seeing that all husbands and wives are henceforward to be put up on sale, proposes shortly to open his chapel on a more new and fashionable plan. As the ingenious Messrs. Henson and Bever have lately opened in different quarters of the town repositories for all horses to be sold by auction, Mr. Keith intends setting up a Repository for all young males and females to be disposed of in marriage. From these studs (as the Doctor himself expresses it) a lady of beauty may be coupled to a man of fortune, and an old gentleman who has a colt's tooth remaining, may match himself with a tight young filly. The Doctor makes no doubt but his Chapel will turn out even more to his advantage on this new plan than on its first institution, provided he can secure his scheme to himself and reap the benefits of it without interlopers from the *Fleet*. To prevent his design being pirated he intends petitioning the Parliament, that as he has been so great a sufferer by the Marriage Act, the sole right of opening

a Repository may be vested in him, and that his place of residence in May Fair may still continue to be the grand mart for marriages."

"Catalogue of Males and Females to be disposed of in Marriage to the best bidder, at Mr. Keith's Repository, in Mayfair.

"A young lady of £100,000 fortune—to be bid for by none under the degree of peers, or a commoner of at least treble that income.

"A homely thing who can read, write, cast accounts, and make excellent puddings.—This lot to be bid for by none but country parsons.

"A very pretty young woman, but a good deal in debt—would be glad to marry a member of parliament, or a Jew.

"A blood of the first-rate, very wild, and has run loose all his life, but is now broke, and will prove very tractable.

"Five templars—all Irish—No one to bid for these lots of less than £10,000 fortune.

"Wanted four dozen of young fellows, and one dozen of young women, willing to marry to advantage—to go to Nova Scotia."

The registers of the May-Fair Chapel marriages are at present in the custody of the Rector and Churchwardens of St. George's, Hanover Square. They have been transcribed and printed by the Harleian Society. Among the numerous entries in these registers some relate to distinguished persons; for instance:—

"Feb. 14, 1752, James, Duke of Hamilton, and Elizabeth Gunning, of St. George, Hanover Square."

Horace Walpole, in a letter to Mr., afterwards Sir, Horace Mann, dated Arlington Street, Feb. 27, 1752, says, "The event which has made the most noise since my last is the extempore wedding of the youngest of the two Gunnings," and then describes an assembly at Lord Chesterfield's, where the Duke of Hamilton made love to Miss Gunning, and proceeds, "However, two nights afterwards, being left alone with her whilst her mother and sister were at Bedford House, he found himself so impatient that he sent for a parson. The Doctor refused to perform the ceremony without license and ring. The Duke swore he would send for the Archbishop; at last they were married with a ring of the bed-curtain, at half an hour past twelve at night, at May Fair Chapel."

Miss Elizabeth Gunning and her elder sister, Maria, who was married to the Earl of Coventry, were celebrated as the most distinguished beauties of the day.

"June 29, 1753, The Rt. Hon. George Bentinck, Esq., commonly called Lord George Bentinck, of St. James, Westmr., and Mary Davies, of Hanwell, Middx."

"Dec. 25, 1744, His Grace Henry Brydges, Duke of Chandos, and Mrs. Ann Jefferys, of the Parish of St. Marylebon, co. Midd., married by me, Alexr. Keith."

"March 17, 1746, The Right Honble. James Stanley, Lord Viscount Strange, of St. George's, Hanover Square, and Mrs. Lucy Smith, of St. George's, Bloomsbery."

The wife of Rev. Alexander Keith died whilst he was imprisoned in the Fleet, upon which he had her corpse embalmed and kept unburied for many months. This seems to have been done in order to excite public curiosity and enquiry, and it certainly was used as a means of advertising. *The Daily Advertiser* of the 23rd of January, 1750, contains the following:—

"We are informed that Mrs. Keith's corpse was removed from her Husband's House in May Fair the middle of October last to an Apothecary's in South Audley St., where she lies in a room hung with mourning, and is to continue there till Mr. Keith can attend the Funeral. The way to Mr. Keith's Chapel is through Piccadilly, &c."

HANOVER CHAPEL, REGENT STREET.

The first stone of this edifice was laid on the 6th of June, 1823, and the building was completed in the year 1825. A certain amount of interest attaches to the chapel from the fact that it is supposed to be the only remaining example of the architect Cockerell's work in London. "It is noted," says a writer in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, "for the picturesque effect of its portico."

A Bill for the demolition of Hanover Chapel passed the House of Commons in July, 1891, and the removal of the building is probably only a question of the near future.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL.

Grosvenor Chapel, situated in South Audley Street, was built in 1730, and seats about twelve hundred persons. The Earl of Chesterfield was buried here in 1773, according to the instructions contained in his will, but his remains were afterwards removed to the family burial-place in Shelford Church, Nottinghamshire. The following eminent persons have

been buried in Grosvenor Chapel:—Ambrose Phillips, poet, died 1749; Lady Mary Wortley Montague, died 1762; David Mallet, poet, died 1765; William Whitehead, poet, died 1785; John Wilkes, died 1797; and Elizabeth Carter, died 1806.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH, NORTH AUDLEY STREET.

This edifice, originally built in the Grecian style from designs by G. Dering, was consecrated on the 25th of April, 1828. In 1878 it was

reconstructed in the Romanesque style by Blomfield. It is a large church, containing sitting accommodation for 1,350 persons. It was built soon after Hanover Chapel to meet the requirements of a large area stretching from Park Street to Regent Street, filled at that time with small tenements.

HOLY TRINITY CHAPEL, CONDUIT STREET.

A peculiar interest attached to this building from the circumstances attending its origin. When James II. sought to seduce his subjects, and

more especially the army, to embrace the Roman Catholic religion, he caused a large wooden chapel to be erected, which was movable at will. It was wheeled to Hounslow Heath, where his army was then lying, and occasionally moved from one part of the camp to the other. When James was subsequently compelled to fly the kingdom, this chapel was brought back to London, and placed in what were then fields, where it remained until the year 1716. In that year Trinity Chapel was erected

on its site. It was built of brick, and lasted until 1877, when it was pulled down down to make way for a new shop.

CHAPTER VI.

Buckingham Palace.—The Mulberry Gardens.—Goring House destroyed by Fire.—Arlington House.—The Gardens at Arlington House.—The Duke of Buckingham.—Buckingham House purchased as a residence for George III.—The King's Library.—Additional buildings by Nash.—Further building in 1847.—The Chapel, Throne-Room, &c.—The Gardens.—The Royal Mews.—Tart Hall.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

THE site of Buckingham Palace was formerly occupied by the celebrated Mulberry Gardens, an account of which will be found in another part of this volume (Chap. X.) George, Lord Goring, afterwards Earl of Norwich, purchased the keepership of the Mulberry Gardens from Lord Aston for £800, and lived in Goring House, which adjoined the Gardens, about the year 1630. He left England during the Rebellion, and his house was occupied in 1646 by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

After the Restoration, Lord Goring returned, and again inhabited Goring House. He died in 1662, and his son sold the house to Henry Bennett, afterwards Earl of Arlington—the statesman who is well known to us by the portrait representing him with a plaster covering a wound across the nose, which he had received when he joined the King's army at Oxford in 1644. His slow formal manner was often the subject of jokes by Buckingham and the other courtiers.

Evelyn, in his *Diary*, mentions Goring House, which he visited in March, 1665, and describes as "ill-built, but . . capable of being made a pretty villa." Pepys waited upon Lord Arlington here in July, 1666. In 1672, on the death of the second Earl of Norwich, of the

BUCKINGHAM HOUSE, 1746.

Goring family, the Mulberry Gardens, which adjoined Goring House, were granted by Charles II. to the Earl of Arlington.

In September, 1674, Goring House was burnt down, and Evelyn gives the following description of the accident:—

"I went to see the great loss that Lord Arlington had sustained by fire at Goring House, this night consumed to the ground, with exceeding loss of hangings, plate, rare pictures, and cabinets; hardly anything was saved of the best and most princely furniture that any subject had in England. My Lord and Lady were both absent at the Bath."

After the fire Earl Arlington rebuilt his residence, and gave it the name of Arlington House. Charles Dryden, son of the celebrated poet, wrote a Latin poem, entitled *Horti Arlingtoniani*, in which the beauties of the gardens around the new house are eloquently set forth. A translation of the poem by Samuel Boyse was published in 1731 in a small volume of *Translations and Poems Written on several Subjects*. The following extracts from the translated poem are interesting inasmuch as they describe the appearance of the place. The original poem by Charles Dryden was published in 1698.

"Near to those Domes th' indulgent Powers assign
The sacred Seat of Stuart's Majestic Line;——

* * * *

Near those fair Lawns, and intermingled Groves,
Where gentle Zephyrs breathe and sporting Loves
A *Frame* there stands, that rears its beauteous Height,
And strikes with pleasing Ravishment the Sight
Full on the Front the Orient Sun displays
His cheerful Beams; and as his Light decays
Again adorns it with his Western Rays.

* * * *

. . . ev'ry jarring Sound is banish'd far,
The restless Vulgar, and the noisy Bar.

* * * *

No ratling Wheel disturbs the peaceful Ground,
Or wounds the Ear with any jarring Sound.
Th' unwearied Eye with ceaseless Rapture strays,
And still Variety of Charms surveys.
Here watch the fearful Deer their tender Fawns,
Stray thro' the Wood, or browze the verdant Lawns:

Here from the marshy Glade the Wild-duck springs,
And slowly moves her wet incumber'd Wings.

* * * *

Within thy fair *Parterres* appear to view
A thousand *Flowers* of various Form and Hue

* * * *

High in the midst appears a rising Ground,
With *Greens* and *Balustrades* inclos'd around:
Here a new Wonder stops the wand'ring Sight,
A *Dome* whose Walls and Roof transmit the Light;
Here foreign Plants and Trees exotic thrive
And in the cold unfriendly Climate live.

* * * *

Not far from hence a lofty Wood appears,
That spite of Age its verdant Honours wears,
Here widely spread does ample Shade display,
Expel the Sun, and form a doubtful Day.

* * * *

A Curious *Terrass* stops the wandering Eye,
Where lovely *Jasmines* fragrant Shade supply;

* * * *

From hence afar, a various Prospect lyes,
Where artless Nature courts the ravish'd Eyes;
The Sight at once a thousand Charms surveys,
And pleas'd o'er Villages and Forests strays:
Here Harvests grow, and Lawns appear, and Woods,
And gently rising Hills,—and distant Floods.

* * * *

And that *fair Fabrick* which our wondering Eyes,
So lately saw from humble Ruins rise,
And mock the Rage of the devouring Flame!
A nobler Structure, and a fairer Frame!
Whose Beauties long shall charm succeeding Days,
And tell Posterity the founder's Praise."

Lady Isabella Bennet, the only child of the Earl of Arlington, married Henry Fitzroy, first Duke of Grafton, and the natural son of Charles II., much against the wish of his mother, the Duchess of Cleveland. On the death of Arlington, in 1685, the house descended to the Duchess, who let it to the first Duke of Devonshire. In Gibson's account of *London Gardens*, written in 1691, and published in the *Archæologia* for 1796, it is described as being in the possession of the Duke. "Arlington Garden being now in the hands of my lord of Devon-

shire, is a fair plat, with good walks, both airy and shady. There are six of the greatest earthen pots that are anywhere else, being at least two feet over within the edge, but they stand abroad, and have nothing in them, but the tree holly-oke, an indifferent plant which grows well enough in the ground. Their greenhouse is very well and their greenyard excels, but their greens were not so bright and clean as farther off in the country, as if they suffered something from the smutty air of the town."

The Duchess of Grafton sold Arlington House, in 1698, to John Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave and Marquis of Normanby, who was afterwards created Duke of the county of Buckingham. This nobleman was not satisfied with the old house, and he therefore, in 1703, rebuilt it after the designs of Colin Campbell, and gave it the name of Buckingham House:—

> "A princely palace on that space does rise,
> Where Sedley's noble muse found mulberries."

Pope, in a letter to the Duke, styles the mansion "a country house in the summer, and a town house in the winter." The same idea seems to have struck the noble owner, for on the garden front, under figures of the four seasons, were the words *Rus in Urbe,* in golden characters.

The house was a good specimen of a handsome English mansion, and it is much praised by Ralph, who observes that it "attracts more eyes, and has more admirers than almost any other about town." The front, surmounted by four figures—Mercury, Secrecy, Equity, and Liberty, beneath which were the words, "Sic Siti Letantur Lares," in golden letters. Two wings were connected with the house by colonnades, and a fountain played in the court-yard, which was separated from the Park by handsome railings and gate.

The Duke of Buckingham gives a very elaborate description of his new house, in a letter to his friend the Duke of Shrewsbury, and the account of terraces and galleries, and of country views, is very agreeable. On one side "a wall, covered with roses and jassemine, is low to admit the view of a meadow full of cattle just under it," and beneath the window of the owner's private closet, "is a wilderness full of blackbirds and nightingales." The Duke adds, however: "I am oftener missing a pretty gallery in the old house I pulled down, than pleased with a

salon which I built in its stead, tho' a thousand times better in all manner of respects."

The Duke of Buckingham died at Buckingham House in 1720-21, at the age of seventy-five. His third wife and widow, Catherine, the natural daughter of James II. and Catherine Sedley, and grand-daughter of Sir Charles Sedley, who wrote the comedy entitled *The Mulberry Garden*, lived on in the house for some years after his death. She was a very arrogant woman, and gave herself airs as if she were of the blood royal. On the anniversary of her grandfather, Charles I.'s, martyrdom, she sat, dressed in deep mourning, in the great drawing-room, in a chair of state, attended by her women. She was considered for a time as the head of the Jacobites, and laboured for the return of her brother the Pretender.

There is reason, however, to believe that she had no cause for her pride, because her mother, the Countess of Dorchester, told her that she was not the daughter of James II., but of Colonel Graham, a fashionable man of his day. There can now be but little doubt that Pope's celebrated character of Atossa (*Moral Essays*, Ep. II.) was intended for this Duchess, and not, as was long supposed, for the old Duchess of Marlborough.

The Duchess was friendly with Pope, who assisted her in many ways, among others in the production of her husband's works, but she quarrelled with him about the year 1729. Pope tried to make up the quarrel, and wrote an epitaph on the young Duke, but the Duchess was inexorable, and would not allow the epitaph to be inscribed on the tomb.

In 1723, the Prince and Princess of Wales wished to purchase Buckingham House, but the Duchess wanted sixty thousand pounds for it, and as that sum was more than they cared to give, she continued to live in it. In April, 1743, Buckingham House, with all the furniture and plate, was left to John, Lord Hervey, but he himself died a few months later, so that he scarcely entered into possession of the house. The property came into the possession of Sir Charles Herbert Sheffield, the Duke's natural son.

Buckingham House was bought from Sir Charles, in 1761, for twenty-one thousand pounds, as a residence for George III. and Queen Charlotte; and in May of the following year they took up their residence there.

GOING TO THE DRAWING ROOM AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE, 1822.

In June, 1763, the Queen persuaded the King to stay for a few days at St. James's, and when he came back, on the night of his birthday, the 6th June, she led him to a window, and the shutters being thrown back, a brilliant illumination in the grounds was exhibited, which had been contrived by the Queen. There was a temple and a bridge, with transparencies, and fifty musicians in an orchestra provided an agreeable accompaniment of music.

About this time the gardens were greatly enlarged by the addition of a part of the Green Park, and alterations were made in their arrangements by "Capability" Brown.

The King's Library, now in the British Museum, was formed in 1765, by the purchase of Consul Smith's library at Venice, which consisted of 63,000 volumes, for £130,000. George III. greatly added to this nucleus, but he directed his librarian never to bid against a scholar or collector of moderate fortune.

Frederick Augusta Barnard was the King's Librarian, and supposed to be an illegitimate son of Frederick, Prince of Wales, and therefore the King's brother. Dr. Johnson assisted in the formation of the King's Library by the instructions he gave to Mr. Barnard. An excellent catalogue of the books in the Library was compiled by the Librarian, and printed in 1822, being dedicated to George IV. In February, 1767, Dr. Johnson had the celebrated interview with George III.

In the year 1805, the King's Library was removed from Buckingham House to Windsor Castle, and after the death of the King, was presented to the nation by George IV. in 1823. This gift comprised upwards of 65,000 volumes of printed books, 8,000 pamphlets, a large geographical and topographical collection, and 446 volumes of manuscripts. The "King's Library," as it was thenceforth called, is rich in Caxtons, contains a copy of the Mazarine Bible, and many beautiful and valuable examples of early, sumptuous, and rare books.

George III. took great interest in his library. Not a day passed without his going into the binding-room, and the interest he felt in the covers of his books has been alluded to by Dr. Wolcot:—

> "No man binds books so well as George the Third:
> By thirst of leather glory spurr'd
> At bookbinders he oft is seen to laugh,
> And wondrous is the King in sheep or calf."
>
> PETER PINDAR'S *Works*, 1794, ii. 79.

In 1775, Buckingham House was settled upon the Queen, in lieu of Somerset House, and was usually called the Queen's House. It was here she held her Drawing Rooms, and the King his Councils, and they lived quietly for many years in this unostentatious house, where all their children, except George IV., were born, and where several of them were married. When the house came into the King's possession, the colonnades connecting the wings with it were filled in with brickwork, and windows pierced through; but otherwise very little alteration was made until George IV. thought he would transform it into a palace.

He knew that Parliament would never grant money for an entirely new building, and therefore operations in the form of alterations were commenced in 1825, by Nash. In 1827, 1828, and 1829, £334,481 was paid for building, and then £160,000 was still owing.

Sir John Soane, the eminent architect, to whom we owe so many of our public buildings in London, exhibited in 1821, and subsequently with alterations, a design for a new Royal Palace to be constructed on a scale of great magnificence on Constitution Hill, close by Hyde Park Corner. A ground-plan, and bird's-eye view of this design, were published in 1828 by Sir John in his *Designs for Public and Private Buildings*.

Upon the accession of Her Majesty to the throne several alterations were effected. The central dome, constructed by Nash, was removed, and in 1847 the appearance of the palace was completely changed by the erection of the present facade by Mr. Blore, in front of, and connecting the two wings, by which means an inner courtyard has been formed. These changes necessitated the removal of the Marble Arch, which was erected at Cumberland Gate, Hyde Park, in 1851.

Mr. H. B. Wheatley, to whose interesting book, *Round about Piccadilly*, we are indebted for many facts in the history of Buckingham Palace, describes the appearance of the building as "particularly mean and ugly, a laughing-stock to foreigners, and a disgrace to the country."

The chapel on the south side, originally a conservatory, was consecrated in 1843. The Grand Staircase is of white marble, and decorated by L. Gruner. The Library is generally used as a waiting-room for deputations, which, as soon as the Queen is ready to receive them, pass across the Sculpture Gallery into the Hall, and thence ascend by the

Grand Staircase through an ante-room and the Green Drawing Room to the Throne Room, a room which is 64 feet long, and the ceiling of which is coved, richly emblazoned with arms, and gilded in the boldest Italian style of the fifteenth century. The Green Drawing Room, which opens upon the portico of Nash's buildings, is 50 feet in length and 32 feet in height, and hung with green satin, striped and relieved with gilding. The Ball Room on the south side was completed in 1856, from Pennethorne's designs, and decorated by L. Gruner.

The pictures in Buckingham Palace were principally collected by George IV. They chiefly consist of the works of Dutch and Flemish painters, and are almost without exception first-rate works.

The gardens of Buckingham Palace contain an area of about forty acres, nearly five acres of which are occupied by the lake. The Queen's summer-house, on the pavilion, contains the frescoes, eight in number, from Milton's *Comus*, executed in 1844-45, by Eastlake, Maclise, Landseer, Dyce, Stanfield, Uwins, Leslie, and Ross.

THE ROYAL MEWS.

The buildings belonging to the Royal Mews are concealed from Buckingham Palace by a lofty mound. It contains a riding-school, a room expressly for keeping state harness, stables for the state horses, and houses for forty carriages. The chief object of interest in the establishment, however, is the magnificent state-coach, designed by Sir W. Chambers, in 1762, and painted by Cipriani, with a series of emblematical subjects. The cost of constructing and ornamenting this carriage was considerably above seven thousand pounds.

TART HALL.

It has been supposed that Tart Hall took its singular name from certain articles of confectionery sold at the Mulberry Gardens close by. The house was built, in part at least, in 1638, by Nicholas Stone, for Alathea, wife of Thomas, twentieth Earl of Arundel, the collector of the celebrated Arundelian Marbles. Tart Hall descended to the second son, the unfortunate William, Lord Viscount Stafford, beheaded in 1680, on the perjured evidence of Titus Oates and others. The gateway was never opened after the last time Lord Stafford passed through it; and the

house, after being used as a place of entertainment, is said to have been taken down in 1720. It is figured, however, upon a map of the Grosvenor Estates about the year 1723.

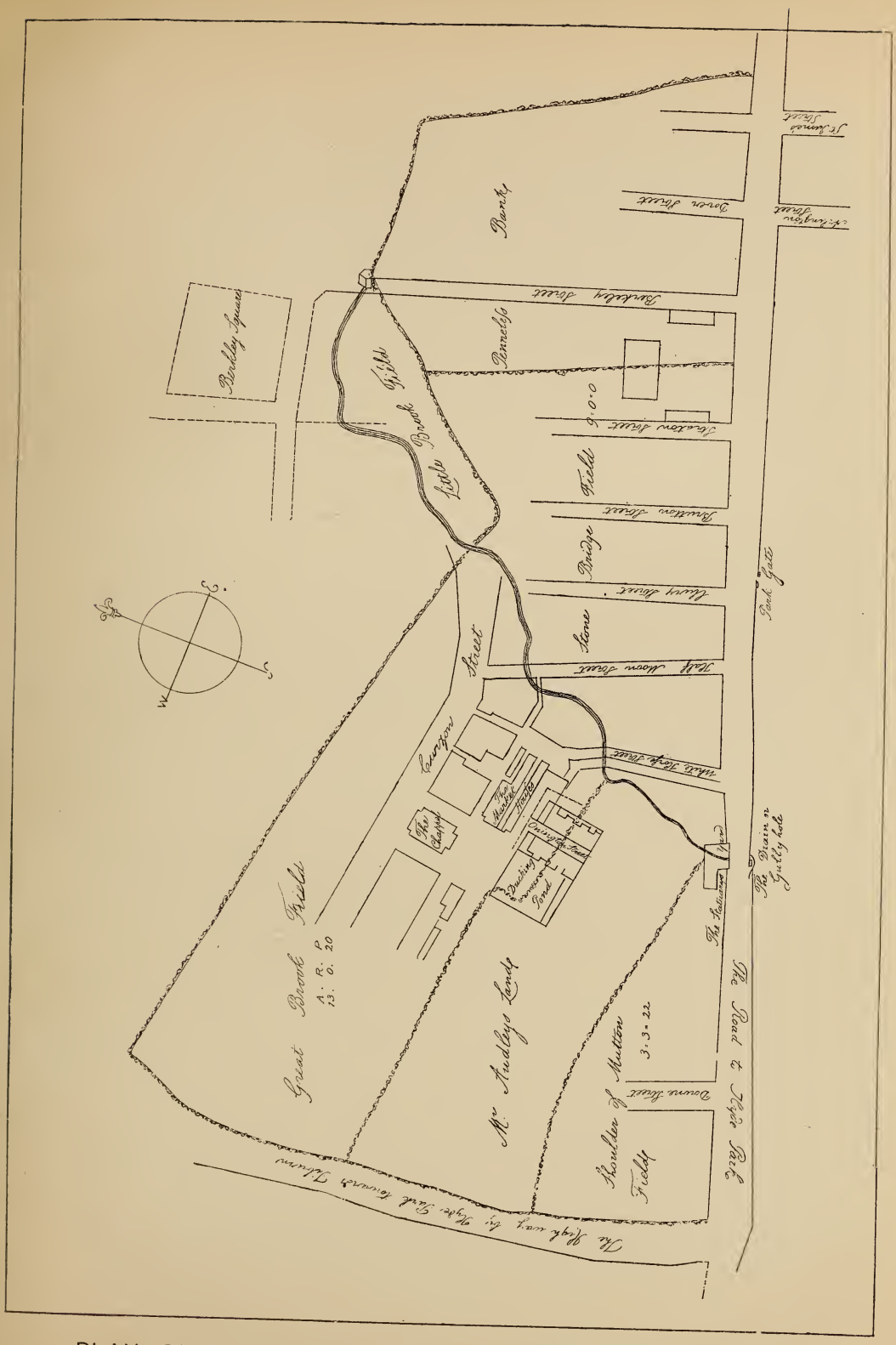
The house appears to have been called, at one time, Stafford House, a name which was afterwards preserved in that of Stafford Row.

Tart Hall marked the boundary-line of the parish; and in order to impress the fact upon the rising generation, a boy was whipped at the spot upon the occasion of the periodical perambulation. For this undeserved punishment the guerdon of two-pence was given to the boy as a solatium.

A portion of the Arundel collection was sold by auction at Tart Hall in 1720. The sale produced the sum of £6,535, and Dr. Mead purchased the head of Homer, now in the British Museum.

The house, at the time of the second sale, is described as being very large and having a very venerable appearance. Some carved seats by Inigo Jones were purchased at Tart Hall, and placed in a temple at Chiswick by Lord Burlington.

Among the Harleian Manuscripts, at the British Museum, is one marked No. 6272, entitled "A Memorial of all the Roomes at Tart Hall; And an Inventory of all the Household Stuffs and goods there, except of six rooms at the north end of the ould Building (which the right Honorable the Countess of Arundell hath reserved unto her peculiar use) and Mr. Thomas Howard's closett, &c. 8° September, 1641." In the "Footmen's Hall," were "Foure pictures hanging on the walls thereof. 1st, A Gundelowe; 2nd, A Mountebanke; 3rd, A Brave; 4th, King Henry 7, his wife and children." "The Great Roome or Hall" was situated next to the "Banketing House." "My Lord's Roome" was hung with yellow and green taffeta. A closet on the west side had the floor covered with a carpet of yellow leather. The roof of one of the rooms was decorated with "a picture of the Fall of Phaëton." Mr. Arden's room was "hanged with Scotch plad." The following pictures are mentioned, but no statuary, "Diana and Actæon," by Titian; "Jacob's Travelling," by Bassano; "A Martyrdom," by Tintoret; and "The Nativity of our Saviour," by Honthorst.



PLAN OF BERKELEY ESTATE NORTH OF PICCADILLY,
ABOUT 1710.

CHAPTER VII.

CELEBRATED HOUSES.

Berkeley House.—Destroyed by Fire, 1733.—Devonshire House.—Lansdowne House.—Collection of Sculpture.—The Youthful Hercules.—The Lansdowne Manuscripts.—Apsley House.—The Duke of Wellington.—Canova's Colossal Statue of Napoleon I.—Trophies, Honours, Pictures, etc.—Grosvenor House.—Dorchester House.—Burlington House.—"Masquerades and Operas, Burlington Gate."—Clarendon House.—Chesterfield House.—The Richmond Driving Club.—Lanesborough House.

BERKELEY HOUSE.

BERKELEY House was built in 1665 on a site which had formed a portion of Hay Hill Farm, and which, subsequently—after the destruction of Berkeley House by fire in 1733—has been occupied by Devonshire House, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, etc. Berkeley House was erected by Hugh May, a friend of Evelyn's, for Sir John Berkeley, of Buxton, afterwards created Lord Berkeley of Stratton. The scale of grandeur and magnificence upon which the house was planned may be imagined from the fact that the sum of nearly thirty thousand pounds was expended upon the building; but for all this its general plan and arrangement did not meet with the approval of that excellent critic of architectural and artistic matters, John Evelyn, who visited it, and in his Diary under the date of the 25th September, 1672, gives the following account of it:—

"I din'd at Lord Berkeley's, newly arrived out of Ireland, where he had been Deputy: it was in his new house, or rather palace, for I am assur'd it stood him in neere £30,000. It is very well built, and has many noble roomes, but they are not very convenient, consisting but of one *Corps de Logis*; they are all roomes of state, without

closets. The staire-case is of cedar, the furniture is princely : the kitchen and stables are ill-plac'd, and the corridore worse, having no report to the wings they joyne to. For the rest, the fore court is noble, so are the stables, and above all the gardens, which are incomparable by reason of the inequalitie of the ground, and a pretty piscina. The holly hedges on the terrace I advised the planting of. The porticos are in imitation of an house described by Palladio, but it happens to be the worst in his booke, tho' my good friend Mr. Hugh May, his Lordship's architect, effected it."

The house is described in a contemporary account as being "built of brick, adorned with stone pilasters and an entablature and pitched pediment, all of the Corinthian order, under which is the figure of *Britannia*, finely carved in stone ; and at some distance on the east side of the court is the kitchen and laundry ; and on the West side, stables and lodging-rooms, which adjoin to the mansion by brick walls, and two circular galleries, each elevated on columns of the Corinthian order, where are two ambulatories." The statue referred to, a fine figure of Britannia carved in white marble, cost £3,500 ; unfortunately it fell from the front of the house a few days after the fire in 1733, and was broken to pieces.

Edmund Waller was a frequent visitor at Berkeley House.

Lord Berkeley died in 1678, and in 1684 two new streets (Berkeley Street and Stratton Street) were built on a portion of the gardens by his widow, under Evelyn's direction, who makes the following entry in his diary under the date of June 12th, 1684 :—

"I went to advise and give directions about the building of two streetes in Berkeley Gardens, reserving the house and as much of the garden as the breadth of the house. In the meanetime I could not but deplore that sweete place (by far the most noble gardens, courts, and accommodations, stately porticos, &c., anywhere about the towne) should be so much straighten'd and turn'd into tenements. But that magnificent pile and gardens contiguous to it, built by the late Lord Chancellor Clarendon, being all demolish'd, and design'd for piazzas and buildings, was some excuse for my Lady Berkeley's resolution of letting out her ground also for so excessive a price as was offer'd, advancing neere £1,000 per ann. in mere ground-rents ; to such a mad intemperance was the age come of building about a citty, by far too disproportionate already

Devonshire House 1843.
(North Front.)

to the nation : I having in my time seene it almost as large again as it was within my memory."

Berkeley House in the year 1695 was occupied by the Princess Anne, sister-in-law of William III. In the beginning of 1697 it was purchased by William, first Duke of Devonshire, who, on the 31st of March in the same year, entertained William III. to dinner therein. The first and second Dukes of Devonshire both died in Berkeley House; the former in 1707, and the latter in 1727.

The mansion was burnt down on the 16th of October, 1733, through the carelessness of workmen employed in repairing it. Although the library, picture gallery, and much of the furniture was saved, the loss was estimated at above £30,000. The Prince of Wales and many persons of distinction were present at the fire, and a body of guards, commanded by the Earl of Albemarle, helped to save the goods from being plundered by the mob.

DEVONSHIRE HOUSE.

Devonshire House, Piccadilly, stands upon the old site of Berkeley House, which was destroyed by fire on the 16th of October, 1733. The

DEVONSHIRE HOUSE, 1808.

new house was designed by William Kent, in 1735, for William Cavendish, third Duke of Devonshire. The original entrance by a flight of steps on

each side was removed in 1840, and the portico and magnificent marble staircase have been added subsequently.

The house itself is of small interest compared with the beautiful art treasures which it contains, and the spacious grounds which lie beyond it. Devonshire House contains many fine pictures of the Italian, French, Dutch, and Flemish schools; several portraits by the older English masters; numerous family portraits, including that of Georgiana, the "beautiful Duchess of Devonshire," "Lord Richard Cavendish," by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and the (architect) "Earl of Burlington," by Sir G. Kneller; the "Liber Veritas" of Claude Lorraine; a large collection of prints by Marc Antonio and other great engravers; and the famous "Devonshire Gems." There is here also a splendid library of costly and beautiful books, and a matchless collection of old English plays, including several first editions of Shakespeare, formed by John Philip Kemble, and bought at his death for £2,000, by the sixth duke, who added largely to the collection.

LANSDOWNE HOUSE.

On the south side of Berkeley Square stands Lansdowne House, a fine old historical mansion. It was built by Robert Adam for the Marquis of Bute, when minister to George III., and sold by the Marquis in 1768, before completion, to Lord Shelburne, afterwards Marquis of Lansdowne, for £22,000, which was supposed to be £3,000 less than it cost. This architect, with his brothers, will be long remembered in connection with the projection and construction of The Adelphi. The brothers are said to have been the first to introduce the use of stucco, as an imitation of stonework, into this country; and they are also credited with having originated the idea of giving a number of unimportant private edifices the appearance of one imposing structure. Portland, Stratford and Hamilton Places have been mentioned as instances. In addition to his architectural labours, Robert Adam also acquired some reputation as a landscape painter.

The house at that period was called Shelburne House, in evident allusion to its possessor's title. In 1771, immediately after the death of Lady Shelburne, Lord Shelburne paid a visit to Italy, and it is highly probable it may have been at Rome that he conceived the idea of

J. Reynolds pinx.

A. Faber fecit

His Grace William Duke of Devonshire

1755.

Printed for Tho. Bowles in St Pauls Church yard

& Jno. Bowles at ye Black Horse in Cornhill.

adorning Shelburne House with a collection of sculpture. In order to put this plan into execution he secured the help of Gavin Hamilton, a Scottish painter, who drew up a scheme for the formation of a sculpture gallery at Shelburne House, and it was agreed that plans should be made by the architect Panini. The plans were prepared and forwarded to Lord Shelburne, and questions of detail were discussed during the next two years. Hamilton was anxious that the strength of the collection should be concentrated on the sculpture gallery, by which he hoped to make Shelburne House famous, not only in England, but all over Europe. The gallery itself had been built by Lord Bute for a music room, and it is clear that Hamilton and Panini proposed a more complete transformation of it than has actually taken place.

After long discussion, Lord Shelburne informed Hamilton, in the summer of 1773, that the plans for the gallery were given up. At the close of that year Hamilton's chief commission was brought to an end, the additions subsequently made through his agency being of minor importance and value.

While the plans for the sculpture gallery were under consideration, Hamilton was engaged in forwarding marbles according to the scheme which had been drawn up during Lord Shelburne's visit to Rome, and by which Hamilton was to supply the sculpture necessary for the sculpture gallery in a period of four years at a cost of about fifteen hundred pounds per annum. The marbles sent in the years 1771 and 1772, were principally derived from a very successful excavation which had been made by Hamilton in 1769, on the site of Hadrian's Tiburtine villa, known as the Pantanello. An examination had already been made on the site by Signor Lolli, and Hamilton's searches were rewarded by the discovery of many statues, which he sent over to Lord Shelburne's collection. In 1792 Lord Shelburne purchased the fine statue of Hercules, now one of the chief ornaments of the collection, and it appears that he must have continued purchases on a considerable scale, for nearly all the statues in the dining room belong to a period subsequent to Hamilton's agency.

Lord Shelburne (created first Marquis of Lansdowne in 1784) died in 1805, and his son, the second Lord Lansdowne, took over the collection of sculpture for £7,000. He left the collection to his widow in 1809, who

sold it to her brother-in-law, Henry, third Marquis of Lansdowne. Several additions were made to it by the third Lord Lansdowne, although his acquisitions were probably in the form of presents received rather than purchases. In particular, Major Fitzmaurice brought various antiquities from Carthage and from the East.

Dr. Waagen, in his *Treasures of Art in Great Britain* (vol. 2, p. 148) says: The finest of the sculptures in one of the large semi-circular spaces are:—

A young terminal figure of Bacchus, in Greco-duro. The good workmanship, the soft, tender ideality of the character, the peculiarity of the head-dress, a plaited bandeau, and at the sides of the neck, a bunch of grapes, render this work very interesting.

A statue of a goddess, in Carrara marble, about seven feet high, which, judging by the noble, open character, I should take for a Juno, seems to me, from the deep folds and the careful treatment of the drapery, to be a Roman work of the first century.

Diomed, with the palladium in one hand, with the other aiming a blow upwards. This is a remarkable example of Roman restorations of the time of Cavaceppi. The vigorous torso, with its thick set proportion and admirable workmanship, belongs to a repetition of the noble statue of the Discobolus in the British Museum.

Juno seated. The drapery, which is cast in fine sharp folds, is of very good workmanship.

Jason fastening his sandal. This repetition of the statue known by the name of Jason was originally very excellent, as is evident from the soft and well-understood workmanship of the torso; the better known examples of it are in the Louvre and the Glyptothek at Munich; it is unfortunately greatly injured in the surface, and much repaired.

A wounded Amazon, in Greco duro. Noble in character, expression and form.

In the semi-circular space opposite are the following:—

Mercury, a statue seven feet high, very nearly akin to that called the Antinous of Belvedere. Very noble and graceful in the proportions. The head is of such delicacy and beauty, that I do not hesitate to consider it one of the finest of Mercury that we possess. The execution of the statue is throughout spirited and animated. It was found at Torre Colombaro, on the Appian Way.

A statue of the youthful Hercules, in Carrara (or rather Pentelic) marble, about seven feet high; the character of the head is remarkably noble, and the form very vigorous. Judging by the treatment this has been pronounced an excellent work of the time of Adrian. It was found in the year 1790, near Adrian's villa, at Tivoli, and is generally reckoned to be one of the most important statues of Hercules which we possess.

Most of the statues mentioned above have been more or less fractured and damaged in other ways, and where that is the case new work has been added in order to supply as far as possible the deficiencies.

The compiler of a recent privately-printed *Catalogue of the Ancient Marbles at Lansdowne House*, writing in reference to the statue of the youthful Hercules, considers that "Without doubt the statue offers one of the finest specimens, if not absolutely the best, of a Herakles according to the conception of Lysippos." It value as a work of art is very great, and was estimated by Payne Knight at one thousand pounds.

The gallery in which most of the statues are placed is of fine proportions, but it lacks sufficient light. The library, which adjoins, is also a beautifully proportioned apartment. Several very interesting pieces of ancient and modern sculpture are in the entrance hall, inner hall, dining-room, large dining-room, and the circular breakfast-room, and the walls of the drawing-rooms, back and front, are enriched with some exquisite examples of the painter's art.

Lansdowne House was celebrated for its library of manuscripts and books, which, in point of historical importance, was of greater consideration even than its beautiful collection of statuary. In February, 1765, Lord Shelburne was married, and not long after he began the formation of his library. Political manuscripts, state papers of every kind, and all such documents as tend to throw light upon the pages of history, were more especially the objects which he sought. Owing to the zeal with which he pursued his researches, and the little competition he experienced, his efforts were rewarded by a large degree of success, and his library grew considerably during his long release from the cares of office. "In 1770, he was fortunate enough to obtain a considerable portion of the large and curious collection of state papers which Sir Julius Cæsar had begun to amass almost two centuries before. Two years later he

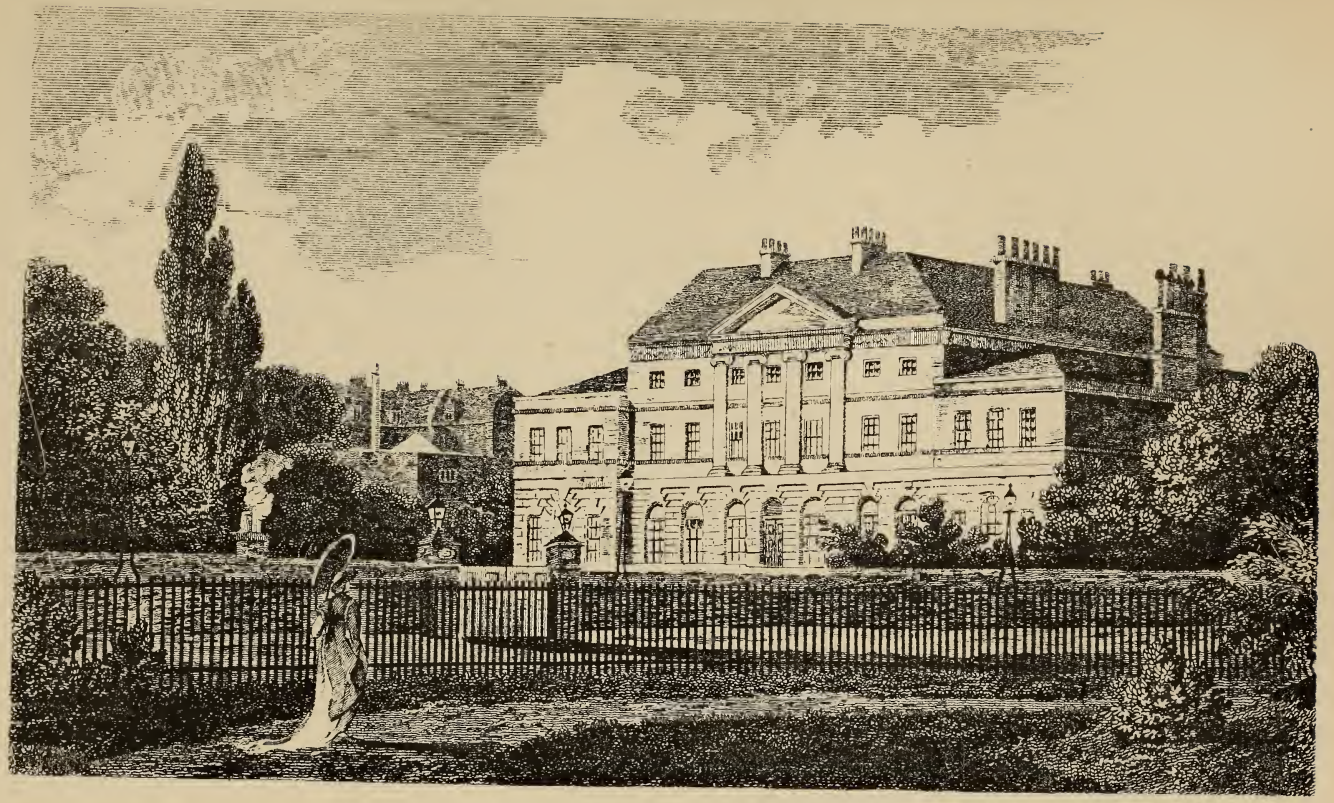
acquired a portion of that far more important collection which had been gathered by Burghley.

"Whilst Lord Shelburne was serving with the army in Germany, the Cæsar Papers had been dispersed by auction. There were then—1757—a hundred and eighty-seven of them. About 60 volumes were purchased by Philip Cartaret Webb, a lawyer and juridical writer, as well as antiquary, of some distinction. On Mr. Webb's death, in 1770, these were purchased by Shelburne from his executors. On examining his new acquisition, the new possessor found that about twenty volumes related to various matters of British history and antiquities; thirty-one volumes to the business of the British Admiralty and its Courts; ten volumes to that of the Treasury, Star Chamber, and other public departments; two volumes contained treaties; and one volume, papers on the affairs of Ireland.

"The 'Burghley Papers,' acquired in 1772, had passed from Sir Michael Hickes, one of that statesman's secretaries, to a descendant, Sir William Hickes, by whom they were sold to Chiswell, a bookseller, and by him to Strype, the historian. These were looked upon with somewhat covetous eyes by Humphrey Wanley, who hoped to have seen them become part of the treasures of the Harleian Library. On Strype's death they passed into the hands of James West, and from his executors into the Library of Shelburne House. They comprised a hundred and twenty-one volumes of the collections and correspondence of Lord Burghley, together with his private note-book and journal.

"Another valuable acquisition, made after Lord Shelburne's retirement in 1768 from political office, consisted of the vast historical collections of Bishop White Kennett, extending to a hundred and seven volumes, of which a large proportion are in the Bishop's own untiring hand. Twenty-two of these volumes contain important materials for English Church History. Eleven volumes contain biographical collections, ranging between the years 1500 and 1717. . . .

"Other choice manuscript collections were added from time to time. Among them may be cited the papers of Sir Paul Rycaut—which include information both on Irish and on Continental affairs towards the close of the seventeenth century; the correspondence of Dr. John Pell, and that of the Jacobite Earl of Melfort.



LANSDOWNE HOUSE.

"These varied accessions—with many others of minor importance—raised the Shelburne Library into the first rank among private repositories of historical lore."—*Edwards's Lives of the Founders of the British Museum.*

The Marquis of Lansdowne died in London on the 7th of May, 1805, and the manuscript portion of his splendid library was purchased by the nation for £4,925. It now forms the Lansdowne Collection in the Department of Manuscripts, at the British Museum.

APSLEY HOUSE.

The Duke of Wellington's residence in this house forms the chief event of importance in its history, but the building itself, as well as its associations and contents, is of considerable interest. The site of Apsley House, described by some writers as one of the finest in the metropolis, commands fine views of the neighbouring parks, with the Surrey and Kentish hills in the distance.

In the time of the Commonwealth several houses were built on the skirts of the Park, between Hyde Park Corner and Park Lane. These were afterwards granted on lease to James Hamilton, Esq., who was appointed Ranger in September, 1660, on the death of the Duke of Gloucester, and the lease was renewed to Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, for ninety-nine years, in 1692. The site is said to have been a present from George II. to a discharged soldier, named Allen, who had fought under that king at Dettingen. His wife here kept an apple-stall, which by the thrifty couple was turned by degrees into a small cottage. The story is told thus. When London did not exist so far as Knightsbridge, George II., as he was riding out one morning, met Allen, who doubtless showed by his garments that he had once belonged to the army. The king accosted him, and found that he made his living by selling apples in a small hut. "What can I do for you?" said the King. "Please your Majesty to give me a grant of the bit of ground my hut stands on, and I shall be happy." "Be happy," said the King, and ordered him his request. Years rolled on; the apple-man died, and left a son, who from dint of industry became a respectable attorney. The then Chancellor gave a lease of the ground to a nobleman, as the apple-stall had fallen to the ground. It being conceived the ground had fallen to the Crown, a stately mansion was soon raised, when the young attorney put in

claims; a small sum was offered as a compromise, and refused; finally the sum of £450 per annum, ground rent, was settled upon.

In 1784, Allen's son or other kin sold the ground to Henry, Lord Apsley, Lord Chancellor, afterwards second Lord Bathurst, who gave to the house which he built upon it the name by which it is still known. The Ranger's Lodge stood on the very spot afterwards occupied by Apsley House.

It was built by, and takes its name from, Henry Bathurst, Baron Apsley, and Earl Bathurst, while Lord High Chancellor, *i.e.*, between the years 1771 and 1778. The original building was constructed of red brick.

Near where the house now stands, there stood a tavern called the "Hercules Pillars," at which the redoubted Squire Western, with his clerical satellite, is represented as taking up his abode on his arrival in London, and conveying the fair Sophia.

In the year 1820 Apsley House was purchased by the nation and settled on the Duke of Wellington, it having been previously the abode of his grace's eldest brother, the Marquis of Wellesley. The house was enlarged in the years 1828-9, when it was to a considerable extent remodelled, faced with Bath stone, and the front portico, and west wing, containing a gallery ninety feet long, added under the direction of Messrs. B. and W. Wyatt.

The principal front, next Piccadilly, consists of a centre with two wings, having a portico of the Corinthian order, raised upon a rustic arcade of three apertures, leading to the entrance hall. The west front consists of two wings, the central portion slightly recedes, and has four windows with a balcony. Although the house was considerably altered externally, yet the old house itself is intact, so much so that the hall door and knocker which are now in use, belonged to the original Apsley House. The iron blinds, which are said to have been bullet-proof, were put up by the Duke of Wellington during the ferment of the Reform Bill in 1832, when the windows were broken by a London mob. They are supposed to have been the first of the kind, and served as a pattern for many others of the same construction which have been put up in other houses subsequently. They were taken down by the second Duke of Wellington in 1856.

APSLEY HOUSE & ENTRANCE TO HYDE PARK.

Piccadilly.

In the saloon there is a colossal statue of Napoleon I. by Canova. The ball-room, extending the whole depth of the mansion, and the picture-gallery, in which are numerous fine paintings, are superb. In the banqueting-room, which is splendidly decorated, was formerly held the Waterloo Banquet, on which annual occasion were assembled the veteran companions-in-arms of the Duke, who fought on the historic field of Waterloo. This festive gathering took place annually until 1852, the year of the Duke's death.

The Duke's bedroom was a small, bare-looking, ill-lighted chamber on the eastern side of the house, with a bedstead so small that someone observed that there was no room to turn in it. "When I want to turn in bed," replied the Duke, "I know it is time to turn out." In the room at Walmer Castle, Kent, where the Duke of Wellington died, they show you a low, small, uncomfortable-looking bed, which, we believe, is a fac-simile of the bedstead whereon His Grace died, the actual bedstead having been removed or fallen to decay.

The Duke's study at Apsley House still contains his favourite writing table, &c., and is left much in the same condition as when His Grace used it. The Museum is crowded with the costly insignia of military fame—jewelled swords of state, and orders presented by well-nigh every country in Europe. Chief amongst them may be noted the order of the Garter, and that of the Golden Fleece. In cases around the room are displayed some exquisite examples of Prussian and Saxon china and an enormous table-ornament, of silver gilt, which used to be placed upon the tables at the Waterloo Banquets. In another glass case are exhibited a gold shield and massive silver gilt candelabras. The "Wellington Shield" was presented to the Duke by the merchants and bankers of London, in the year 1822. It formed the chief ornament of the Duke's sideboard on state occasions. It is of pure gold, and was manufactured by Messrs. Rundle and Bridge from the designs of Thomas Stothard, R.A. On it are represented, in bas-relief and in alto, the most important of the Duke's victories; and it is said that its cost was nearly £15,000.

Among other most interesting articles preserved are the boots and saddle of the Iron Duke.

Apsley House is so full of artistic valuables and curiosities that

anything like a list of them would be too lengthy for our purpose. Some of the more striking or remarkable articles, however, must be briefly described. The colossal statue of Napoleon I., by Canova, stands at the foot of the circular staircase in a position which, although somewhat cramped, suits it better than any other which could be found in the house. The light from the roof falls perpendicularly upon the sculpture, displaying the elaborate muscles to the greatest advantage. Little ideal effect has been added to the countenance, in which resemblance to the original has been preserved as closely as the heroic style and the nature of the work would allow. The ample forehead, the look of deep and intense thought, and the strongly marked expression of the mouth and chin, all indicate a personage of high and extraordinary qualities. Napoleon is represented nude, excepting a rich military cloak which hangs down from his left shoulder. In his right hand he holds a globe, surmounted by a victory, while the left, raised above his head, grasps the imperial sceptre. He inclines his head towards the figure of victory, and seems absorbed in the emotions of stern delight which it excites. His left foot is raised as if in the act of moving forward, and finely accords with the animated and eloquent expression of his countenance. The neck and chest are sculptured with much grandeur of style, and in every part of this magnificent statue one can discover beauties which attest the scientific skill of the sculptor.

The work is beautifully finished in Carrara marble. Canova completed it in 1811, and sent it to Paris. It was given to the Duke of Wellington by the Prince Regent, afterwards George IV.

The Waterloo Gallery contains the candelabras of Russian porphyry which were presented by the Emperor Nicholas, and the vases of porphyry from Sweden presented by King Oscar.

Among the numerous paintings which adorn the various rooms, the following may be mentioned as possessing more than ordinary interest:—"The Chelsea Pensioners," by Wilkie; "The Greenwich Pensioners," by Burnet; "Van Amburgh in the Cage with Wild Beasts," and "A Whiskey Still," by Landseer; "The Melton Hunt," by Francis Grant, R.A.; copies by Bonnemaison of the four celebrated works of Raphael, known as "The Spasimo," "La Madonna del Pesce," "The Pearl," and "The Visitation"; "The Battle of

Waterloo," by Sir William Allen; and the following portraits: "John, Duke of Marlborough"; "Marshal Soult"; "Pope Pius VII."; "Mr. Pitt," "Mr. Arbuthnot," and "The Duchess of Wellington," by Gambardella; "William IV.," by Wilkie; "Lord Beresford," "Lord Lynedoch," "Lord Anglesea," and "Lady Wellesley," by Sir Thomas Lawrence; "Lord Nelson," by Sir William Beechey; "Lady Charlotte Greville," and "The late Lord Cowley," by Hoppner; "Sir George Murray"; and "Marshal Blucher." The following are some of the busts, &c.; "The Duke of Wellington," by Steele; "Lord Castlereagh"; "Mr. Perceval"; "Col. Gurwood"; "Col. Ponsonby"; "The Marquis Wellesley"; "Henri Quatre"; "The Prince de Conde"; "Louis XIV."; "Marshal Turenne"; and equestrian figures of "Queen Victoria," "The Duke of Wellington," and "Napoleon I."

The colossal statue of the Duke of Wellington, by Wyatt, which stood on the top of the triumphal arch opposite Apsley House, represented the Duke upon his horse, "Copenhagen," at the field of Waterloo. It was set up on the 28th of September, 1846, was taken down in 1883, and removed to Aldershot in July, 1884, when the thoroughfare was widened. A new statue of the Duke was placed here in 1888.

Mr. Walford happily describes the Duke of Wellington's daily appearance in public, whilst residing at Apsley House. Down to within a few weeks of his death, the Duke used to ride out every afternoon, on his way to the Horse Guards or the Park. His appearance, as he passed from the gate of Apsley House into Piccadilly, at his accustomed hour, was one of the sights of London which country cousins were regularly taken to see; and, attired in a plain blue frock-coat, with white waistcoat and trousers, with a groom riding before him, he was the observed of all observers. A stranger could recognise him amidst his peers by the marked respect they showed to him. The Duke was the best-known and most popular man in London. There were people constantly waiting at the entry to the House of Lords, and not unusually in the vicinity of the Horse Guards, to get a peep at him; and he had been so long accustomed to acknowledge the homage paid to him by all classes, on his appearance in public, that the habit had become mechanical with him. Every well-bred

person raised his hat to the Duke; and the Duke, sitting on horseback in his calm, impressive manner, and looking straight before him, lifted two fingers towards his hat to everybody. It was quite a scene when he chanced to walk along Regent Street, or some of the more frequented thoroughfares in the neighbourhood of the Horse Guards or the Houses of Parliament. A knot of followers instantly fell into his wake, augmenting as he proceeded. Shopkeepers rushed to their doors, or peered out of their windows, to catch a glance of him. "The Duke," passed from lip to lip. You could see in the countenance of all sorts of people as they approached and passed—and all sorts of people is a wide word in the streets of London—a pleased expression as they recognised the Duke. It was less striking to observe the respectful greeting of the better conditioned classes, than the cordial interest which the common people evinced in the great captain. The omnibus-driver would point him out to his outside passengers; the cad on the steps behind, to his "insides." The butcher's boy, as he dashed along on his pony, drew bridle to look at the Duke. Cabmen, cadgers, costermongers, and *gamins*, gentle and simple, young and old, paused for a moment to gaze at the man whom they delighted to honour.

GROSVENOR HOUSE.

This house was at one time inhabited by the Duke of Gloucester, brother of George III., who purchased it in 1761. At that time it was known as Gloucester House. In 1827, Thomas Cundy, Architect, designed the picture gallery; and the handsome screen of classic pillars, connecting the gateway at each end, added in 1842-43, was also designed by him.

The magnificent collection of pictures here exhibited, founded by Richard, first Earl Grosvenor, and augmented by his son and grandson, renders the house famous throughout the world. It comprises many masterpieces by Rubens, Rembrandt, Titian, Van Dyck, Hogarth, and Sir Joshua Reynolds's famous portrait of Mrs. Siddons as the Tragic Muse, besides many other beautiful examples of the work of English and foreign artists.

DORCHESTER HOUSE

was erected in the years 1852-4, from the designs of Mr. Lewis Vulliamy. Its fine Italian Renaissance front, 135 feet in length, forms a striking object from Hyde Park. The entrance front has a carriage portico. The house is constructed of Portland stone, and has much good carving. The internal dimensions are of a very noble and imposing character. The rooms on the principal floors are of magnificent proportions, and crowded with choice paintings and other works of art, but the chief feature of the house is the white marble staircase, which is singularly effective and beautiful. The two libraries on the ground floor contain a large collection of rare, valuable, and sumptuous books, manuscripts, drawings, and engravings. Among the paintings are choice examples of Claude, Hobbema, Cuyp, Ruysdael, Rembrandt, Paul Potter, Wouvermans, Berghem, Ostade, Sir David Wilkie, Velasquez, and many others.

Dorchester House takes its name from the Earls of Dorchester, who had a house upon the same site before the present one was built. It is now the residence of R. S. Holford, Esq.

BURLINGTON HOUSE.

Burlington House was erected between the years 1664 and 1667, on the east of Lord Clarendon's new house. It is supposed to have been built by Sir John Denham for the Earl of Burlington, who was the first occupier of the house. It was constructed from the designs of John Webb, and composed of red brick. It had two principal floors; the first floor with thirteen windows along the front, and the ground-floor with twelve windows, six on each side of the entrance door. There was also a garret-floor, with nine windows in the roof. There were two projections or slight wings, one at each end of the principal front. The building appeared to be a large, comfortable old house. There were two small blocks of buildings, probably the offices of the house.

The gardens behind the house appear to have been extensive, and were laid out with formal hedges and small, cropped trees. Holy Trinity Chapel is shown in the engraving as standing in the open fields just outside of the gardens of Burlington House.

About fifty years after the first erection, the whole place was altered.

The old building was not destroyed, but a coating of stone entirely changed the south front. This work, the great gate and the street wall, were done under the direction of Colen Campbell, but the beautiful colonnade which was built about the same time, and so well proportioned that Sir William Chambers considered it and the house as specimens of one of the finest pieces of architecture in Europe, is attributed to the third Earl of Burlington. It was the most characteristic portion of the whole structure, and it is impossible not to regret that so charming an erection should be a thing of the past. It was taken down in the year 1866, to make room for the rooms which were then built for the accommodation of learned societies. The stones of the colonnade were numbered, and placed in Battersea Park.

The interior of the house was much criticised, and severely censured in an epigram, a paraphrase from Martial, which has been attributed to Lord Chesterfield, and also to Lord John Hervey:

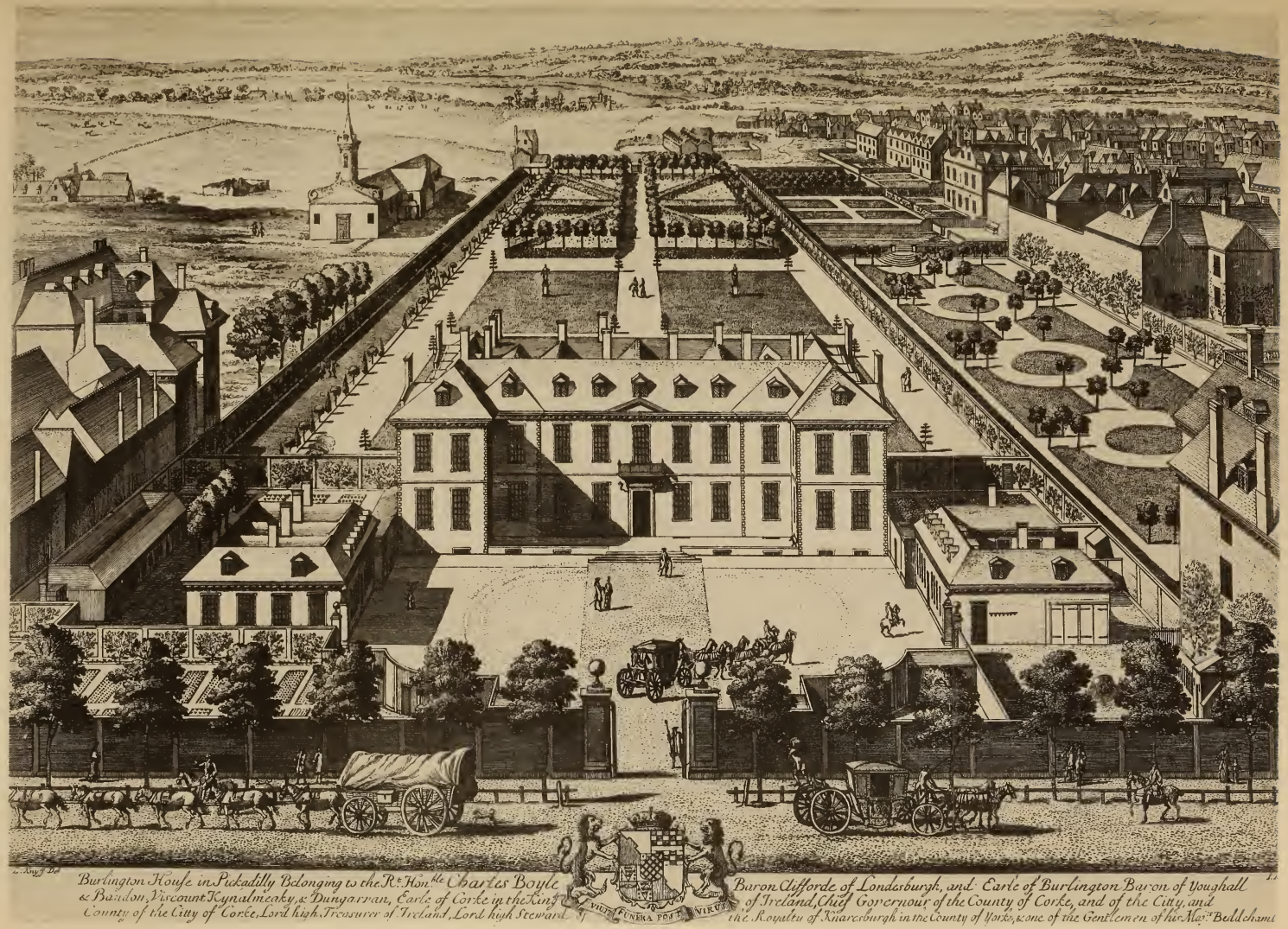
> "Possess'd of one great hall for state,
> Without a room to sleep or eat;
> How well you build let flattery tell,
> And all the world how ill you dwell."

The walls and some of the ceilings of Burlington House were painted by Marco and Sebastian Ricci, and Sir James Thornhill. The poet Gay sings:—

> "Yet Burlington's fair palace still remains;
> Beauty within, without, proportion, reigns.
> Beneath his eye declining art revives,
> The walls with animated pictures lives;
> There Handel strikes the strings, the melting strain
> Transports the soul, and thrills through every vein;
> There oft I enter (but with cleaner shoes),
> For Burlington's beloved by ev'ry muse."

Upon the death of the Earl of Burlington in 1753, the title became extinct, and Burlington House, together with the villa at Chiswick, fell into the possession of the Cavendish family, owing to the marriage, in 1748, of William, Marquis of Hartington, afterwards fourth Duke of Devonshire, to Charlotte, the youngest of the three daughters of the Earl of Burlington.

Some years later—about the year 1766—William Henry, third Duke of Portland, married Dorothy, the only daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, and went to live at Burlington House in


Burlington House in Pickadilly Belonging to the Rt. Hon.ble Charles Boyle
& Baron Viscount Kynalmeaky & Dungarvan, Earle of Corke in the King
County of the City of Corke, Lord high Treasurer of Ireland, Lord high Steward
VIRTUS SUNEKA POS
VIRTUS
Baron Clifforde of Londesburgh, and Earle of Burlington Baron of Voughall
of Ireland, Chief Governour of the County of Corke, and of the City, and
the Royalty of Knaresburgh in the County of Yorke, one of the Gentlemen of his Mat.s Bedchamb

BURLINGTON HOUSE, 1707.

consequence. During the latter part of the eighteenth century, after the death of Rockingham, there were frequent meetings of the Whig party at Burlington House, and Burke, Fox, Francis, Windham, and Sheridan were frequent visitors. In 1807 the same house was the head-quarters of the Tory party.

Henry Cavendish, the great chemist, lived in the east wing of this interesting house. His father at one time used to allow him a small income, and it was said that when he went to the dinners of the Royal Society Club, he never had more money in his possession than the exact five shillings that was required to pay the reckoning, which amount was given him by his father. Some amusing anecdotes are told of him, showing how little idea he had of the value of money. When he arrived at middle life he became possessed of an immense fortune, and died worth considerably over a million of money. He had a balance of many thousand pounds lying for some years at his bankers', and they waited on him to know whether he would not wish some of it to be invested. He replied, "Do as you like, but don't bother me, or I shall remove my account." He seldom went out except to the Royal Society Club, and now and then to the christenings of his young relatives at Burlington and Devonshire houses. Upon those occasions he was informed that it was usual to give something to the nurse, so he would dive his hand into his pocket and give her a handful of guineas without counting them.

On the 20th of June, 1814, Burlington House was the scene of a brilliant fête given by the members of White's Club, to the Allied Sovereigns then in London. The whole of the garden was enclosed by tents, and in the evening the Prince Regent and other august guests sat down to a grand banquet, at which nearly two thousand persons are said to have been present. The cost of the banquet amounted to considerably more than nine thousand pounds.

In 1815 Burlington House was sold by the Duke of Devonshire, to his uncle, Lord George Cavendish, for £75,200, and in 1854, it was purchased by the Government for £140,000. It was supposed at one time that it was intended as a residence for one of the Royal Family, but in 1857, the Government, wishing to obtain the whole of Somerset House for its own use as offices, offered apartments in

Burlington House to the Royal Society, the Society of Antiquaries, the Geological Society, and the Royal Astronomical Society.

In 1866 the wall fronting Burlington Gardens and the famous colonnade were removed, and substantial wings took their places.

On the ground at the back of the old house the University of London was built in 1866-68, from designs by Sir James Pennethorne. The exhibition-rooms of the Royal Academy were designed by Sydney Smirke, R.A.

Burlington Arcade was designed in 1818-19 for Lord George Cavendish by Samuel Ware, Architect.

Handel lived for some years as a guest at Burlington House, and Pope, Gay, and Dr. Arbuthnot were constant visitors. In 1724, Hogarth attacked Lord Burlington and his friends in a plate called the *Taste of the Town*, the title of which was afterwards changed to *Masquerades and Operas, Burlington Gate*, and is now known as "the small masquerade ticket." In this plate there is a representation of Burlington Gate, with Kent on the pediment brandishing pallet and pencils, and Michael Angelo and Raphael below him. Hogarth is supposed to have been urged to make this sketch by Sir James Thornhill, who was annoyed at Kent having been preferred to him as painter to George II., at Kensington Palace. Hogarth made a larger sketch of the gate, which he entitled the *Man of Taste*. Kent is represented in the same position, but the word *Taste* appears in large capitals on the pediment. In front is a scaffold, on which Pope, with his back to the spectator, is seen whitewashing the front and defiling the passers by, more especially the Duke of Chandos, who holds his hat above his head to save himself. The Earl of Burlington is represented in the capacity of a labourer, going up a ladder.

CLARENDON HOUSE.

This fine house had but a short history, extending scarcely over the space of twenty years; but its magnificence and association with the unfortunate nobleman from whom its name was taken entitle it to as much notice as is bestowed upon many houses of more ancient foundation.

A large tract of land was granted to Lord Clarendon by letters patent, dated 13th June, 1664. The land is thus described: "One

MASQUERADES AND OPERAS, BURLINGTON GATE.

THE MAN OF TASTE.

close, called Stonebridge-close, containing eleven acres, abutting upon the highway leading to Hyde Park on y^e^ south, on a messuage or tenement in y^e^ occupation of John Emblyn on y^e^ north, on a little brooke on y^e^ west, and on a close called Pennylesse Banke on y^e^ east; one other close, called y^e^ Pennylesse Banke containing nine acres and a halfe, abutting on Stonebridge west, on a close called y^e^ Stone Conduit on y^e^ east, on y^e^ highway leading to Hyde Park on the south, and y^e^ said messuage or tenement in y^e^ occupation of John Emblyn north; and one other close called y^e^ Stone Conduit Close, abutting on y^e^ said Pennylesse Banke on y^e^ west, on a close called Swallow Close on y^e^ east, on y^e^ highway leading into Hyde Park on y^e^ south, and on y^e^ fields where y^e^ citty conduit stands, on y^e^ north, containing nine acres, lying near St. James in y^e^ parish of St. Martin's in y^e^ Fields, in our county of Midd^x.^ part of y^e^ demeasne lands of our mannor or Bayliffwicke of St. James afores^d.^"

The house was immediately commenced upon a site directly opposite St. James's Street. On the 7th of March, 1666, a lease of the Conduit Mead (whereon were afterwards built New Bond Street, Conduit Street, Brook Street, &c.) was granted by the City of London for ninety-nine years, at a nominal rent of eight pounds a year. The Earl purchased the stones which had been intended for the repair of the old St. Paul's Cathedral, and employed three hundred men on the works. The people, wearied by the plague and an unsuccessful war, were incensed against him for this expenditure of money. The building of Clarendon House was undertaken at an unfortunate time, and as the Prime Minister, the people singled out Clarendon to bear the whole brunt of their rage. When the news came that the Dutch were at Gravesend, they broke the windows of Clarendon House, and painted on the gate the picture of a gibbet, with the following lines beneath it:—

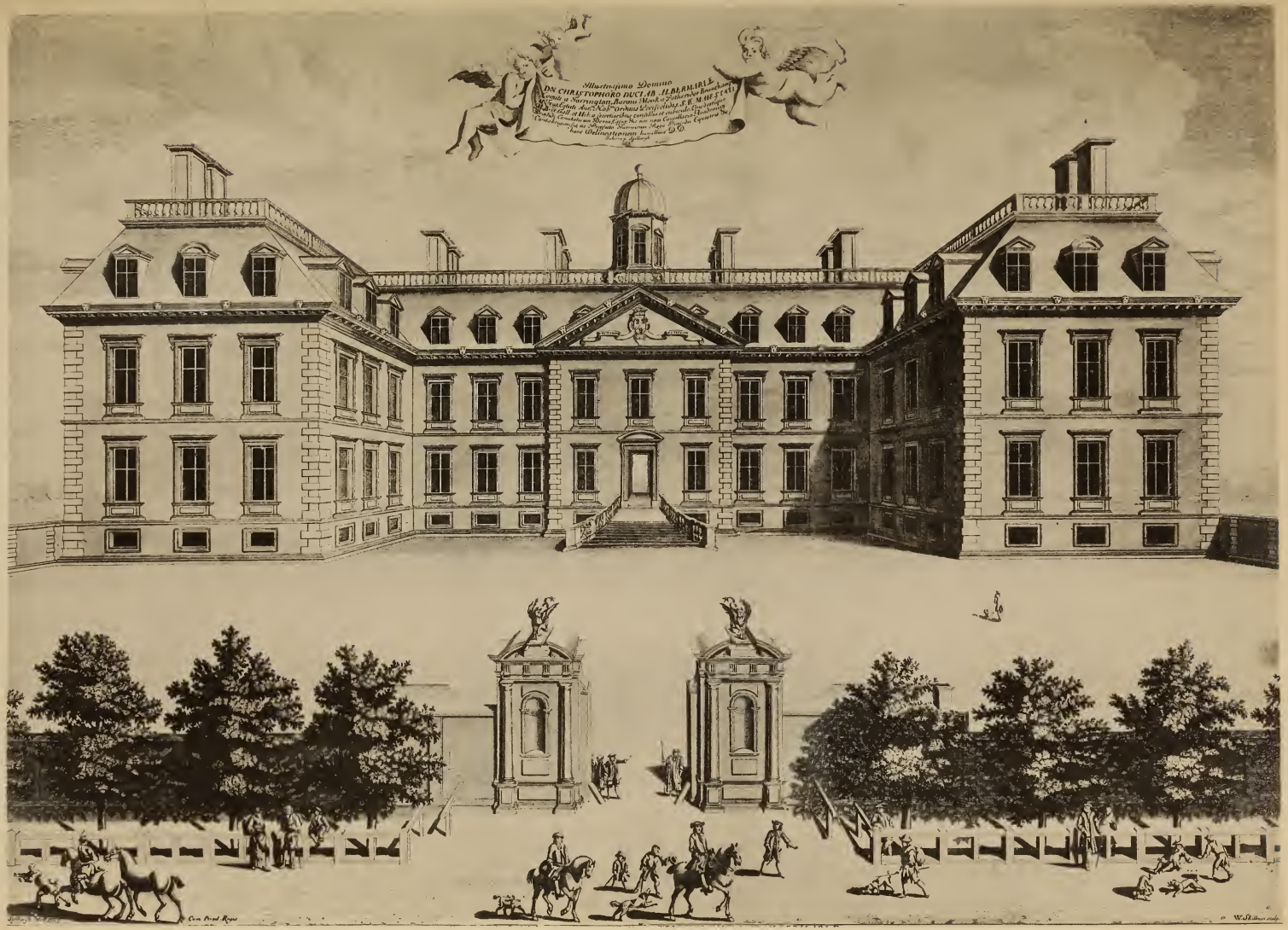
> "Three sights to be seen,
> Dunkirk, Tangiers, and a barren Queen."

In a letter dated from Sayes Court, 20th of January, 1665-6, addressed to Lord Cornbury, Evelyn writes:—

"Upon Wednesday last I went to London, and spent the whole afternoon in viewing my Lord Chancellor's *new house* [Clarendon House, built by Mr. Pratt; since quite demolished by Sir Thomas Bond, &c.,

who purchased it to build a street of tenements to his undoing. —J. E.] if it be not a solecism to give a palace so vulgar a name. My incessant business had till that moment prevented my passionate desires of seeing it since it was one stone advanced: but I was plainly astonished when I beheld what a progress was made. Let me speak ingenuously; I went with prejudice and a critical spirit, incident to those who fancy they know anything in art. I acknowledge to your Lordship that I have never seen a nobler pile: my old friend and fellow traveller (co-habitant and contemporary at Rome) has perfectly acquitted himself. It is, without hyperboles, the best contrived, the most useful, graceful, and magnificent house in England,—I except not Audley-end; which, though larger, and full of gaudy and barbarous ornaments, does not gratify judicious spectators. As I said, my Lord: here is state and use, solidity and beauty most symmetrically combined together: seriously there is nothing abroad pleases me better; nothing at home approaches it. I have no design, my Lord, to gratify the architect, beyond what I am obliged as a professed honourer of virtue, wheresoever 'tis conspicuous; but when I had seriously contemplated every room (for I went into them all, from the cellar to the platform on the roof), seen how well and judiciously the walls were erected, the arches cut and turned, the timber braced, their scantlings and contignations disposed, I was incredibly satisfied, and do acknowledge myself to have much improved by what I observed. What shall I add more? *rumpatur invidia*; I pronounce it the first Palace in England, deserving all I have said of it, and a better encomiast. May that great and illustrious person whose large and ample heart has honoured his country with so glorious a structure, and, by an example worthy of himself, showed our nobility how they ought indeed to build, and value their qualities, live many long years to enjoy it: and when he shall have passed to that upper *building not made with hands*, may his posterity (as you, my Lord) inherit his goodness, this palace, and all other circumstances of his grandeur, to consummate their felicity."

The architect, Pratt, deceived Clarendon in the expense of the building, for he estimated it at less than £20,000, though it really cost £50,000. It is difficult to understand why an expenditure of even £50,000 should cripple him as much as it seems to have done, because



CLARENDON HOUSE, ABOUT 1670.

the land granted to him extended from Swallow Close towards Hyde Park, and he must have received money from Lords Berkeley and Burlington for the land on which they built.

Clarendon was allowed little time to enjoy his new house. In August, 1667, he was deprived of the Great Seal, and soon after (29th November) was forced to fly the Kingdom. During his banishment the house was let to the Duke of Ormonde, who was living in it in the year 1670. Soon after Clarendon's death in exile, which took place on the 9th of December, 1674, the house was sold for £25,000, by his sons, Lord Cornbury and Lawrence Hyde, afterwards Earl of Rochester, to Christopher, second Duke of Albemarle, who lived in it for some time. When the Duke purchased it, he changed its name to Albemarle House, and new letters patent were granted (dated 10th November, 1677), ratifying the ground to him and his heirs and assigns for ever. The young Duke, however, soon ran through his old father's estate, and was obliged to sell the house to the highest bidder. He ruined his health by excessive drinking. He was sent out to Jamaica as governor, and Sir Hans Sloane accompanied him as medical attendant. His object in getting this office was to weigh up a rich Spanish galleon, sunk near the island. He was successful in his undertaking, and exaggerated rumours of his having discovered a silver-mine came over to England. He died, however, in 1688, before he could return home, and his widow is said to have cheated the other partners in the scheme, and brought the whole of her money to England. She went mad, and determined she would marry no one but the great Turk. Ralph, first Duke of Montague, wooed and married her in the disguise of that individual, when he confined her, and made use of her money to build Montague House, afterwards the British Museum.

Sir Thomas Bond, of Peckham, and other speculators, bought Albemarle House for £35,000, and on its site reared four new streets, viz., Dover Street, Albemarle Street, Bond Street (called after the chief contractor), and Stafford Street. It is said that a larger sum was realized by the sale of the old materials than was paid for the house.

The mansion was of great size, and consisted of a centre with two wings. There were two principal floors and an attic story surmounted by a balustrade, with a small tower in the centre. The wall

that ran along Piccadilly was a low one, with a handsome gateway.

CHESTERFIELD HOUSE.

This beautiful house, standing at the junction of Curzon Street and South Audley Street, was built on ground belonging to Curzon, Earl Howe, by Isaac Ware, for Philip, fourth Earl of Chesterfield, author of the celebrated *Letters*. The Earl took possession of his new house on March 13, 1749, and Walpole, in his *Letters*, describes the house-warming, which did not take place until February, 1752. In a letter, the Earl of Chesterfield describes his boudoir as the gayest and most cheerful room in England, his library as the best, and his garden as a scene of verdure and flowers not common in London. The columns and the grand staircase were brought from Canons, the seat of the Duke of Chandos, and the circumstance is humorously alluded to by Lord Chesterfield, who in one of his letters to his son, speaks of the Canonical pillars of his house. The lantern of copper-gilt for eighteen candles, bought by the Earl of Chesterfield at the sale at Houghton, the seat of Sir Robert Walpole, is celebrated in a once famous ballad by Fielding, in the *Craftsman*, called "The Norfolk Lanthorn, a New Ballad,"

The following description of Chesterfield House is taken from No. 152 of the *Quarterly Review*:—

"In the magnificent mansion, which the Earl erected in Audley-street, you may still see his favourite apartments, furnished and decorated as he left them,—among the rest, what he boasted of as the 'finest room in London,'—and perhaps even now it remains unsurpassed; his spacious and beautiful library, looking on the finest private garden in London. The walls are covered half-way up with rich and classical stores of literature; above the cases are, in close series, portraits of eminent authors, French and English, with most of whom he had conversed; over these, and immediately under the massive cornice, extend all round, in foot-long capitals, the Horatian lines:

NUNC . VETERUM . LIBRIS . NUNC . SOMNO . ET . INERTIBUS . HORIS.
DUCERE . SOLICITÆ . JUCUNDA . OBLIVIA . VITÆ.

"On the mantelpieces and cabinets stand busts of old orators, interspersed with voluptuous vases and bronzes, antique or Italian, and

T. Sandby Tyrr. del. J.S. Muller Sculpr.

This View of the R.t Hon.ble the Earl of CHESTERFIELD's House, near Hyde Park, taken from y.e Park Wall.

is Humbly Dedicated to his Lordship by his L.dp.s Most Obedient Servant Ed.d Jn.o Eyre. publish'd acc.g to Act of Par.t Dec. 18 1750

airy Statuettes of Opera nymphs. We shall never recall that princely room without fancying Chesterfield receiving in it a visit of his only child's mother—while probably some new favourite was sheltered in the dim mysterious little boudoir within—which still remains, also in its original blue damask and fretted gold-work, as described to Madame de Monconseil."

Lord Chesterfield was the first nobleman who made strenuous efforts to introduce French cookery. He engaged as his cook La Chapelle, a descendant of Louis the Fourteenth's favourite cook. La Chapelle published in 1733, a treatise on cookery, in three volumes, which is now rarely met with. Like Alexis Soyer's books, La Chapelle's *Modern Cook* was printed for the author, and sold by Nicholas Prévost, a Frenchman, over against Southampton Street in the Strand. About this period, Lord Chesterfield was Lord Steward of the Household to George II. His dinners and suppers were deemed perfection; and these entertainments were among the very few items in which his expenditure was liberal.

The Earl also built Stanhope Street, the street leading from his mansion into Park Lane. The ground belonged to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, with whom the Earl considered he had a hard bargain, as appears by the following clause in his will:—

"In case my said godson, Philip Stanhope, shall, at any time hereafter, keep, or be concerned in keeping of, any race-horses or pack of hounds; or reside one night at Newmarket, that infamous seminary of iniquity and ill-manners, during the course of races there; or shall resort to the said races; or shall lose, in any one day, at any game or bet whatsoever, the sum of £500,—then, in any of the cases aforesaid, it is my expressed will that he, my said godson, shall forfeit and pay out of my estate the sum of £5,000, for the use of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster."

The Earl had doubtless found the Dean and Chapter of Westminster of that day exorbitant and grasping in their negociations with him for the land, and he declared that he now inserted their names in his will, because he felt sure that, if the penalty should be incurred, they would not be remiss in claiming it.

Chesterfield's declining years, though now and then brightened by

flashes of wit and merriment, were clouded by sickness and despondency. His ruling passion was ruffled in his last moments, when his only expressed anxiety related to his friend Dayrolles being in the room without a chair to sit down upon.

The Earl died in Chesterfield House on the 24th of March, 1773; desiring, in his will, that his remains might be buried in the next burying-place where he should die, and that the expense of his funeral might not exceed £100. He was accordingly interred in Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street; but his remains were afterwards removed to Shelford, in Nottinghamshire.

Chesterfield House continued to be the town house of the Earls of Chesterfield until 1849, when it was let to the Marquis of Abercorn, at an annual rental of three thousand pounds, and it was sold in 1889 to Mr. Charles Magniac for £170,000. Mr. Magniac leased a portion of the famous garden behind the house for building a row of mansions on, named Chesterfield Gardens. He also pulled down the colonnade, and let the land formerly occupied by the stabling and kitchen offices for the building of several large mansions.

The Richmond Driving Club used to meet at Lord Chesterfield's house, and drive to dinner at the Castle Hotel, Richmond. There Charley Sheridan would sing his best songs, one of them being "John Collin," beginning:—

> "My name is John Collin, head-waiter at Simmer's,
> At the corner of Conduit Street, Hanover Square,
> Where my chief occupation is filling up brimmers
> To solace young gentlemen laden with care."

LANESBOROUGH HOUSE.

The country residence of Theophilus, first Lord Lanesborough, called Lanesborough House, stood on the site of St. George's Hospital, fronting towards Hyde Park. The semi-rural surroundings of this spot are illustrated in the following distich, which Lord Lanesborough caused to be inscribed upon the front of his house:—

> "It is my delight to be
> Both in the town and country."

Brought Pervet

J. Brooks Fecit

The most Noble and Puissant Lord Philip Dormer Stanhope Earl of Chesterfield
Baron Stanhope of Shelford Embassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the States General of United Provinces
One of the LORDS of the REGENCY, One of His MAJESTY'S Most Honourable PRIVY COUNCIL, KNIGHT of the Most
Noble Order of the GARTER Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of the Kingdom of IRELAND.

Sold by T. Jefferys at the Corner of St. Martins Lane in the Strand — and W. Herbert at the Golden Lion on London Bridge —

This nobleman was extremely fond of dancing, and Pope ridicules him as :—

"Sober Lanesborough dancing with the gout."

He died in Lanesborough House in the year 1724.

CHAPTER VIII.

LITERARY AND OTHER CELEBRITIES.

The Residences of Celebrities, arranged alphabetically under the names of streets, &c.—Miscellaneous; "Gaunt Square," Richard Heber, Kitty Fisher.

The Albany.

LORD BYRON was living in A 2 in 1814.

Macaulay lived at F 3 from 1841 to 1856. He also seems to have occupied E 1 at one time.

Albemarle Street.

Lord Byron at one time lived at Gordon's Hotel, No. 1, and, according to Jesse, the greater part of *The Corsair* was composed whilst walking up and down this street.

Richard Glover died in 1785 at his residence in this street.

No. 50a, the house of John Murray, the celebrated publisher, is remarkable as having been the place where the most eminent men of the day met from time to time. Here Mr. Murray received Byron, Scott, Moore, Campbell, Southey, Giffard, Hallam, Lockhart, West, Irving, Mrs. Somerville, Lawrence, Wilkie, Phillips, Newton, Pickersgill, and many others whose names are eminent in the world of art and letters.

Aldford Street (Chapel Street).

Shelley resided for a short time in the year 1813, at No. 23.

Berkeley Square.

Lady Anne Barnard, who, as Lady Anne Lindsay, was the authoress of "Auld Robin Gray," lived at the close of her life at No. 21.

Martha Blount died in Berkeley Square in 1762.

Colin Campbell, Lord Clyde, lived at No. 10 a few months before his death.

Colley Cibber, shortly before his death, lived at No. 20.

Lord Clive lived at No. 45, and there, on the 22nd of November, 1774, died by his own hand.

Thomas Hope, the author of *Anastasius*, at one time lived in Berkeley Square.

Lady Mary Wortley Montague died at Berkeley Square in August, 1762.

Horace Walpole resided at No. 11 from 1779 to 1797.

Berkeley Street.

Shortly before his retirement to Twickenham, Alexander Pope resided at No. 9.

Bolton Street.

Madame D'Arblay lived at No. 11, and was visited here by Sir Walter Scott.

New Bond Street.

Lord Byron, before his marriage, used occasionally to live at Stevens's (afterwards Fischer's) Hotel, No. 18.

Lord Nelson lived at No. 147. The house, however, has been since rebuilt.

Sir Walter Scott used to stay at Long's Hotel, No. 16.

Old Bond Street.

William Harrison Ainsworth, the famous novelist, in the earlier part of his life, resided in this street, where he carried on the business of a publisher.

In 1796, James Boswell was living in this street, where he entertained Johnson, Reynolds, Goldsmith, and Garrick.

Archibald Bower, author of the *History of the Popes*, died in this street in September, 1766.

In 1766, the great Lord Chatham was living in this street.

Gibbon lodged in Old Bond Street whilst engaged in writing his celebrated history of the Roman Empire.

De la Motte, the spy, was arrested at his lodgings in this street in 1781.

It has been asserted that Laurence Sterne died in the house, No. 41, but another account is that Sterne's death took place in a house which is now pulled down, and the site of which is now occupied by No. 39b. D'Israeli, in his *Literary Miscellanies*, quotes the following account of the event.

"'John,' said my master, 'go and enquire how Mr. Sterne is to-day.' . . . I went to Mr. Sterne's lodgings; the mistress opened the door. I enquired how he did; she told me to go up to the nurse. I went into the room, and he was just a dying. I waited ten minutes, and in five he said, 'Now it has come.' He put up his hands as if to ward off a blow, and died in a minute." He was buried in the Burial Ground belonging to the Church of St. George, Hanover Square, and further particulars relating to him will be found in connection with an account of that cemetery in this volume (pp. 54-56).

Brook Street.

George Frederick Handel lived for over thirty years at No. 25.

Mrs. Delany lived in Brook Street many years when Mrs. Pendarves, and Swift's correspondent.

No. 20 is rather a remarkable house from the fact of its having been the residence of Gerald Vandergucht, the engraver, and the birth-place of his son, Benjamin Vandergucht, the portrait painter. Thomas Barker, celebrated for his picture of the "Woodman," lived in the same house. The great room at the back of the house (built by the elder Vandergucht) was subsequently let to the Society of Painters in Water Colours, and here the first exhibition of the society was opened, on the 22nd of April, 1805.

Sir Jeffry Wyatville (then Mr. J. Wyatt) lived at No. 50.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH AND HANOVER SQUARE, ABOUT 1750.

General Lord Lake died in Lower Brook Street, on the 18th July, 1808.

Sir William Fordyce, M.D., lived in this street from 1724 to 1792.

Welbore Ellis, Lord Mendip, died in Brook Street in 1802.

Sir Charles Bell died at No. 30, in 1832.

Rev. Sydney Smith lived at No. 25, in 1835.

Sir Thomas Trowbridge lived in 1809 at No. 34.

In 1820, Sir Henry Holland, the eminent physician, moved from Mount Street to No. 25 (now No. 72), Lower Brook Street, and continued its occupant until his death in October, 1873. It was originally Edmund Burke's town house, Holland's next door neighbour in later years (No. 74) being Sir William Gull, with Sir William Jenner close at hand (No. 63).

Lord George Gordon was born in Upper Brook Street in 1750.

William Gerard Hamilton died, in 1796, at No. 27, Upper Brook Street.

The Hon. Mrs. Damer, the sculptor, lived in No. 18, and there died in 1828.

George Greville's house was in Upper Brook Street.

Bruton Street.

John the "great" Duke of Argyle had his London residence in this street.

Mrs. Jameson lived in this street from 1851 to 1854.

Sheridan lived in a house in this street for several years.

Chapel Street, *see* Aldford Street.

Charles Street, Berkeley Square.

At No. 27, a very small house, looking over the north wall upon the garden of Chesterfield House, lived William Beckford, the author of *The History of Caliph Vathek*, in just such a loophole of retreat as delighted this man of taste and knowledge, "run to seed in the gratification of extravagant freaks."

Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer lived in a house of moderate size at the east end of the street on the north side.

Sir Edward had the house embellished after his own taste: one of the drawing-rooms was a facsimile of a chamber which he had visited at Pompeii; vases, candelabra, chairs, tables to correspond. James Smith humorously describes his dining here: "Our host lighted a perfumed pastille modelled from Vesuvius. As soon as the cone of the mountain began to blaze, I found myself an inhabitant of the devoted city; and, as Pliny the elder, thus addressed Bulwer, my supposed nephew: 'Our fate is accomplished, nephew! Hand me yonder volume! I shall die as a student in my vocation. Do thou hasten to take refuge on board the fleet at Misenum; yonder cloud of hot ashes chides thy longer delay. Feel no alarm for me: I shall live in story; the author of *Pelham* will rescue my name from oblivion.' Pliny the younger made me a low bow," &c. Sir Edward's dining-room was furnished in the old English style, carved chairs, tables, and sideboard, which drew from a visitor the judicious remark, that "such furniture is all right in old baronial halls, but to encounter it in a small house in a London street is too startling a transition."

Sydney Smith lived at No. 33, Charles Street, from 1834 to 1839.

Chesterfield Street.

George Brummell, better known as "Beau Brummell," just after he had come into possession of his fortune of some thirty thousand pounds, took a house in this street. He soon became famed for the excellence of his dinners, and the Prince of Wales was his guest on more than one occasion. Brummell was not a mere coxcomb, but also a man of great shrewdness, observation, and satirical spirit. Madame de Staël is said to have felt having failed to please him as her greatest misfortune, and placed the Prince of Wales's neglect of her as a minor piece of ill-luck.

Caroline Norton lived in Chesterfield Street; she afterwards married Sir William Maxwell.

George Selwyn, the brilliant wit, lived in this street in 1776, and for many years after.

Clarges Street.

Elizabeth Carter, in 1762, took apartments at No. 20 in this street.

Francis Jeffrey lodged at No. 13, during the Session of Parliament of 1832.

Edmund Kean lived at No. 12, shortly after the date of his first appearance in London, 1814.

Macaulay lodged at No. 3, in 1838.

William Mitford, the historian of Greece, lived at No. 14, from 1808 to 1814.

Daniel O'Connell lodged during the Parliamentary Session of 1835 at No. 9.

Clifford Street.

At No. 18, the corner of Old Burlington Street, John Bright occupied apartments on the second floor in 1888.

Conduit Street.

In 1772, James Boswell was lodging in this street.

George Canning lived at No. 37, but the exterior of the house has since been altered.

Mrs. Jameson was lodging in this street early in 1860, and there died in March of the same year.

Cork Street.

George Peabody was living at No. 15, in the year 1861.

Curzon Street.

Lord Beaconsfield resided for the three last months of his life at No. 19, and there died in 1881.

At No. 8, Mary and Agnes Berry lived and received their brilliant company.

At No. 24, Francis Chantrey lodged during the years 1809 and 1810.

In 1746 Tobias Smollett had lodgings in this street.

Dover Street.

John Evelyn, in 1699, moved to a house in this street, about nine doors up, on the east side.

At No. 17—Mackellar's Hotel—Oliver Wendell Holmes lived during his visit to London, in 1886.

Shelley lived at a hotel in this street, and one of his children was born there.

Eaton Street, Pimlico.

Thomas Campbell had lodgings at one time at No. 42. Eaton Street has since been absorbed in Grosvenor Place.

Eccleston Street.

In 1836, George Grote moved to No. 3, Eccleston Street, now numbered 3, Belgrave Place.

George Street, Hanover Square.

Nathaniel Hawthorne lodged at No. 24, in 1855.

Lady Mary Wortley Montague passed some of the last months of her long life in this street.

At No. 25 Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst died in 1863.

Grafton Street.

In this street, formerly called "Ducking Pond Row," Charles James Fox resided in 1782.

No. 4 was for a long time the residence of Lord Brougham.

Admiral Earl Howe lived and died at No. 11.

Great Stanhope Street.

Lord Palmerston lived at No. 9 from 1820 to 1840.

No. 12 was the town residence of Sir Robert Peel.

Green Street.

No. 59 was the last London house of Sydney Smith.

Grosvenor Square.

Lord Lytton lived at No. 12 from 1868. It was the last London house occupied by him, and after his death (which took place at Torquay in 1873) he was buried from this house.

At No. 35 John Wilkes lived for seven years before his death, at a time when he had long outlived his popularity.

South end of Park Lane.

Hamilton Place.

No. 1 was the residence of the Earl of Eldon.

No. 4 was the residence of the Duke of Wellington at the time of the Battle of Waterloo.

Hertford Street.

Dora Jordan lived in this street, which was formerly called Garrick Street.

No. 35a was the residence for some years of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, afterwards Lord Lytton.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan lived at No. 10 from 1793 to 1801.

Hill Street.

Henry Peter Brougham resided at No. 5 from 1825 to 1829.

Lord Chancellor Camden died here in 1794.

Thomas Raikes, the fashionable journal writer, lived at No. 13.

Lower Belgrave Place.

Allan Cunningham lived from 1824 to the time of his death, 1842, at No. 27—now known as No. 98, Buckingham Palace Road.

Mount Street.

Richard Cumberland at one time lodged in this street.

Park Lane.

Lady Brassey lived at Lord Brassey's house—No. 24, Park Lane.

No. 29 was the residence for many years, subsequently to 1839, of Benjamin Disraeli, afterwards Earl of Beaconsfield.

Bulwer Lytton was living in 1841, at the time of the publication of *Zanoni*, at No. 1, Park Lane.

Piccadilly.

At No. 80, Sir Francis Burdett, in 1810, barricaded himself within the house on the day when he was to have been arrested. A riot ensued, in which a man was killed.

In 1806, Lord Byron was staying at No. 61, Piccadilly, a house which stood on the site of Piccadilly Circus.

No. 94, formerly Cambridge House, now a club house, was the residence of Lord Palmerston from 1850 to 1865, the year of his death.

No. 139, and the adjoining mansion on the right, were one in the early part of this century, and formed the residence of the Duke of Queensbury.

In 1803, Sir Walter Scott was staying, while on a visit to London, at "15, Piccadilly West."

Piccadilly Terrace.

Lord and Lady Byron, in the spring of 1815, took possession of No. 13, and in the following December their daughter was born in the same house.

Queen Street, Berkeley Square.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan lived in Queen Street in 1810.

Tom Duncombe was another of the celebrated inhabitants of the street.

Seamore Street.

Lady Blessington lived at No. 8, from 1832 to 1836.

South Audley Street.

Queen Caroline stayed, prior to her trial, at No. 77, as the guest of Alderman Wood.

Lord Chesterfield lived at Chesterfield House in this street.

Thomas Holcroft worked until he was fifteen years old at the trade of his father—a shoemaker—in this street.

No. 72 was, at different periods, the residence of two royal exiles, Louis XVIII. and Charles X.

Lord Bute lived at No. 73 during the time of his greatest unpopularity, and died there on the 10th March, 1792.

South Street.

Charles James Fox lived at No. 9 from 1792 to 1796.

Victoria Square, Buckingham Palace Road.

In 1840, Thomas Campbell leased the house, No. 8, Victoria Square.

Wilton Crescent.

No. 24 was the residence of Henry Hallam, the historian.

Woodstock Street.

Dr. Johnson first resided in this street after his arrival in London.

Prince Talleyrand was residing in this street at the time of the execution of Louis XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Readers of *Vanity Fair* will doubtless be able to identify several of the scenes drawn with so much fidelity in that charming book, with localities still existing in and near Mayfair. Berkeley Square, for instance, is Thackeray's "Gaunt Square," and Lansdowne House is probably the house he had in his mind's eye when he limned out "Gaunt House." "Great Gaunt Street," too, is Hill Street.

Curzon Street, even had it no association with actual persons of eminence, would have been immortalized by Thackeray's pen. The small house in which Becky Sharp lived (according to *Vanity Fair*) is situated on the south side of the street, near the western end, and only a few doors further east than the house in which Lord Beaconsfield died. It is four and a half stories high, and built with blackish brick like its neighbours, with painted sills and portico. Its extreme narrowness compared with its height especially distinguishes it. The front door, with drab pilasters and a moulded architrave, is just half its width, and only leaves room for one parlour window in its first floor.

Richard Heber, the great book collector, and one of the founders of the Athenæum Club, lived and died at his house in Pimlico. He is supposed to have spent about £100,000 in purchasing books, coins, and drawings, and is said to have gathered together eight

houses full of books, numbering in all 146,827 volumes. After Heber's death, which occurred on the 4th of October, 1833, this immense collection of books was sold, portion by portion, by public auction.

KITTY FISHER.

Catherine Maria Fisher, a notorious character of the eighteenth century, who is said to have been the original of "Kitty Willis," in Mrs. Cowley's *The Belle's Stratagem*, lived during a part of her career in Carrington Street, Mayfair. Her name was sometimes spelt Fischer, and this agrees with the supposition that she was of German origin. Ensign (afterwards Lieutenant-General) Anthony George Martin is said to have introduced her to public life. Her beauty was on several occasions depicted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and she was credited with the possession of considerable wit. She was a daring horsewoman, and her public appearance in the London parks in this character excited the attention of the wits of the period. The broadside from which the following extract is made was printed in reference to her riding, and was entitled, "Horse and away to St. James's Park, or, a Trip for the Noontide Air. Who Rides Fastest, Miss Kitty Fisher, or her Gay Gallant."

"Walking in the Park on Monday last, and enjoying the vernal air, and the warm beams of the returning sun; the day, the company, and the gladness that appeared on every countenance, touched the springs of life, and gave me a satisfaction that cannot be well exprest.

"Whilst I was there, the following accident alarmed me, and had like to have put an end to the pleasure of the walk, and I own sent me home rather chagrin'd.

"Two young ladies, attended each with her officer, and servant, were returning from Hyde Park, where they had been airing on horse back; one of the Ladies was in a black riding habit, and mounted on a horse singularly marked, they flung down the Green Park in an easy canter; but they no sooner entered within the pails of St. James's, but the Lady in black lost her seat, shrieked out, and came tumbling on the ground. Numbers flew to her Relief; her distress and genteel Appearance awakened our curiosity and pity. Servants and the Chair were immediately called.

"Upon our coming up, we found it to be the celebrated Miss K . . . y F . . . r: her military attendant had raised her from the Ground. . . . The Nymph was in tears, but rather from Apprehensions of her Danger than the sense of Pain; for whether it was owing to anything her Heroe had said, or from finding the danger over, she with a prity childishness stopped the torrent tears and burst into a fit of Laughing. A superb Chair soon arrived; she flung herself into it, and away she swung through a Crowd of Gentlemen and Ladies who by this time had come up.

"A sort of murmer was heard; but one gentleman louder than the rest spoke up. . . 'Who would be modest when they may live in this state by turning? Why 'tis enough to debauch half the women in London.'

Printed at Strawberry Hill.

Another satirical composition was a poetical tract, entitled "Kitty's Stream; or, the Noblemen turned *Fisher*-Men. A Comic Satire. Addressed to the gentlemen in the *Interest* of the celebrated Miss K. . . y F. . . r." It was published in the year 1759, and the author's name was disguised under the pseudonym of "Rigdum Funidos." The following final lines of the poem are interesting as furnishing an account, which is at least contemporary, of Kitty's origin and powers of attraction :—

"Is she of Great or Noble Blood?
Support her—then your Cause were Good.
But all that we can know of her
Is this—She was a Milliner.
Her parentage so low and mean,
Is hardly to be traced, I ween.
Say, has she Wit, or has she Sense?
No—Nothing but Impertinence.
Impertinence in her can charm,
When real worth would scarce alarm.
In truth, 'tis strange, 'tis passing strange,
That she should bring about this Change;
And totally invert your Senses,
With nought but specious Pretences.
Pray, where will all this Folly end?
'Tis now high time I think to mend:
And, if we give the Devil his Due,
The Fault is not in her—but you."

It was stated by Madame d'Arblay that Bet Flint once took Kitty

Fisher to see Dr. Johnson, but he was not at home, to her great regret.

She died at Bath, and at her own request was placed in the coffin in her best dress, and "An Elegy on Kitty Fisher lying in state at Bath," was written in reference to the event.

The following are the references to the Map of St. George's, Hanover Square, published in 1761, and reproduced on page 111:—

1. Grosvenor Square.
2. Upper Grosvenor St.
3. Grosvenor Street.
4. Upper Brook Street.
5. Brook Street.
6. North Audley Street.
7. South Audley Street.
8. Hyde Park Street.
9. South Street.
10. Chapel Street.
11. Mount Street.
12. Little Grosvenor St.
13. Duke Street.
14. Charles Street.
15. Berkeley Square.
16. Bruton Street.
17. High Street.
18. Hay Street.
19. Farm Street.
20. New Bond Street.
21. Old Bond Street.
22. Albemarle Street.
23. Stafford Street.
24. Dover Street.
25. Berkeley Street.
26. Devonshire House.
27. Strutten Street.
28. Bolton Street.
29. Clarges Street.
30. Half-moon Street.
31. Chesterfield House.
32. May Fair Chapel.
33. Market House.
34. Grenadiers' Stables.
35. Curzon Street.
36. St. James's Street.
37. Arlington Street.
38. Bennet Street.
39 Piccadilly.
40. Hamilton Street.
41. Birch Street.
42. St. George's Hospital.
43. Park Lane.
44. Oxford Road.
45. King Street.
46. Hanover Street.
47. George Street.
48. Conduit Street.
49. Mill Street.
50. Maddox Street.
51. Swallow Street.
52. Prince's Street.
53. Hanover Square.
54 South Moulton Road.
55. Green Street.
56. North Row.
57. David Street.
58. Life Guards' Stables.
59. Lock Hospital.
60. Buckingham House.
61. Norfolk Street.
62. Stanhope Street.
63. Chesterfield Street.
64. Queen Street.
65. Charles Street.
66. Union Street.
67. John Street.
68. James Street.
69. Bird Street.

MAP OF ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE.

(For References see Page 110.*)*

CHAPTER IX.

STREETS AND SQUARES.

The Achilles Statue.—Albemarle Street.—Audley Street (North and South).—Belgrave Square.—Berkeley Square.—Brook Street.—Chester Square.—Curzon Street.—Davies Street.—Eaton Square.—Ebury Street.—Eccleston Street.—Grafton Street.—Grosvenor Square.—Hanover Square.—Hay Hill.—Lowndes Square.—Lupus Street.—The Marble Arch.—Oxford Street.—Piccadilly.—Westbourne Place.—Wilton Crescent.—"Beating the Bounds."—The Committee of the Watch.

IN the preceding chapter we have mentioned some of the streets and squares in this locality in which celebrated personages have resided at one time or another. In the present chapter we propose to say something about the history of the streets and squares themselves. Under this head, too, it has been found convenient to place certain public monuments, &c.

The Achilles Statue.

On the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, 18th June, 1822, this statue was placed in Hyde Park in honour of the Duke of Wellington, "inscribed by the women of England to Arthur, Duke of Wellington, and his brave companions in arms." The statue is by Sir R. Westmacott, R.A., and has excited much uncomplimentary comment among critics. Larwood writes:—"There were few who could see anything in common between the Duke and a nude figure, the name and author of which are to this day unknown. The subject was a cast of a statue made of Grecian marble, found among the ruins of a Roman villa, and standing on the Monte Cavallo at Rome. The secret history of the manœuvres to which this monument owes its erection, is not a little curious and edifying. It appears that the Countess of Spencer, in conjunction with several other amateurs and

artists of fashion, had long been desirous of seeing in this country a bronze cast of this matchless and world-renowned Phidian statue. Though a committee had been formed to effect this purpose, there seemed little chance that the wish would be realized, as the funds necessary for the object were too considerable to be expected from a collection among amateurs. But when the illustrious achievements of the Duke of Wellington had given a filip to public spirit and liberality, the committee thought it an excellent occasion to carry their point by tacking the Duke's name to the project. This idea, more ingenious than candid, was adopted, and an advertisement was published soliciting subscriptions from the ladies of England towards erecting a monument to the Duke of Wellington, which monument, it was added, would be a facsimile of a statue of Phidias, representing Alexander the Great taming Bucephalus. Omitting even the trifling fact that Phidias died nearly a century before Alexander the Great was born, there were various other reasons, too numerous to detail, which rendered the statue utterly unfit for the purpose for which the committee intended it, but they triumphantly remedied all drawbacks by placing the Duke's head on the shoulders of the Grecian statue, and introducing him to the public as Achilles.

"Twelve 24-pounders, taken from the French at Salamanca, Vittoria, Toulouse, and Waterloo, were melted down in the composition of this statue, but as gun metal is rather brittle for statuary purposes, it was found requisite to add one third of another alloy, so that the whole mass, as it stands at present, is equal to sixteen 24-pounders. Yet, though the Pope had furnished the ladies with casts; though the Ordnance office had given cannons, and the King fifty square feet in Hyde Park, still the statue was only erected at a cost of £10,000. Having been patched up by Westmacott with a sword and shield, it was brought to its site in the Park on the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo." The colossal statue was too large to bring into the Park by the ordinary gate, and a special opening had to be made for it by the removal of a portion of the wall.

Albemarle Street.

The name is derived from the Duke of Albemarle, who purchased Clarendon House, a palatial residence which once occupied this site, and

has been more particularly noticed in our account of "Celebrated Houses." Perhaps Albemarle Street is best known, however, as the residence of Mr. Murray, the publisher, of world-wide fame. Mr. Murray removed here in 1812 from Fleet Street. The Royal Institution, and several clubs, are in this street, and amongst other interesting items to be noticed we may mention that Dr. Richard Mead here kept his celebrated collection of drawings by Italian masters, purchased by George III., and now in the Royal Library at Windsor.

The street was apparently built very early in the eighteenth century, as in the *New View of London*, published in 1708, it is described as "a street of excellent new buildings, inhabited by persons of quality."

Albemarle Street numbers amongst its former eminent inhabitants:— Sir William Wyndham, the Prince of Wales (afterwards George II.), the Earl of Grantham, and Dr. Berkeley, the celebrated Bishop of Cloyne.

Audley Street (North and South).

The name Audley Street is taken from Hugh Audley, Esq., of the Inner Temple. He was a notorious money-lender, and amassed a large fortune in the first half of the seventeenth century by frugal living and hard dealings. In 1605 he possessed only £200, and died in November, 1662, worth £400,000. He held a very lucrative post in the Court of Wards, and is said to have lost not less than £100,000 by the disestablishment of the court at the time of the civil wars. At his elbow he usually had some devotional book, especially when he expected clients, and he was very regular in his attendance at church.

His land, described in an old survey, about 1710, among King George III.'s maps in the British Museum, as "Mr. Audley's land," lay between "Great Brook Field" and "Shoulder of Mutton Field." He left a large portion of his property to Thomas Davies, or Davis, a bookseller in St. Paul's Churchyard, and one of his executors; afterwards Sir Thomas Davies, Lord Mayor of London.

South Audley Street was built in 1730.

Belgrave Square.

This square, which takes its name from a village in Leicestershire, where the Duke of Westminster has considerable property, was built

in 1825, the whole square being designed by George Basevi, and the detached villas by Philip Hardwick, R.A., and others. Belgrave Square has been described as the most gorgeous of our squares. The isolated mansions at the four corners, standing obliquely to the sides of the square, look like a hint taken from the position of Montague House in Portman Square.

Belgrave Square may be said to be the centre of Belgravia—a name which was at first merely a convenient term to express the fashionable squares and streets around this square.

Berkeley Square.

Malcolm observes that this square is worthy of notice rather on account of the inequality of the ground, so much greater than is usually found in London, than for anything remarkable in its buildings. It was this picturesque character of the district that attracted the Berkeleys, Devonshires, and Clarendons of former days to plant their mansions near it. The square dates from the time of Queen Anne, and was built under the direction of John Evelyn. The centre of the enclosed portion, which is beautifully wooded, once contained a huge statue of George III. on a clumsy pedestal. The figure of the King was represented in a Roman habit, in the character of Marcus Aurelius. It was executed by Beaupré, under the direction of Wilton, for the Princess Amelia, who placed it in 1766 where it stood until a few years ago. The central part of the square was planted with shrubs and plane trees about the end of the eighteenth century. The square has many interesting associations, which are mentioned in another portion of this volume.

Bond Street (New and Old).

Bond Street derives its name from Sir Thomas Bond, Bart., whose house in Piccadilly was temporarily occupied by the French Ambassador in 1699. The building of Old Bond Street was commenced about the year 1686. The street occupies a portion of the old site of Clarendon House. The east side was the last built, previously to which the west side was known as Albemarle Buildings.

The extension northward of Old Bond Street to Oxford Street was commenced before 1721, in which year it was rated for the first time in the books of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

Many celebrated people have lived in Bond Street at various times, and the locality is now chiefly remarkable for the number of first-rate, old established shops which it contains. Bond Street may fairly be called the most important of those streets in London which are devoted to business establishments.

Brook Street.

The name is derived from Brook Field, so named after the brook Tyburn. Brook Field in its later years was divided into Great and Little Brook Field. Upper Brook Street extends from Park Lane to Grosvenor Square. Lower Brook Street (at first called Little Brook Street, and now simply Brook Street) extends from Grosvenor Square to Hanover Square.

Chester Square.

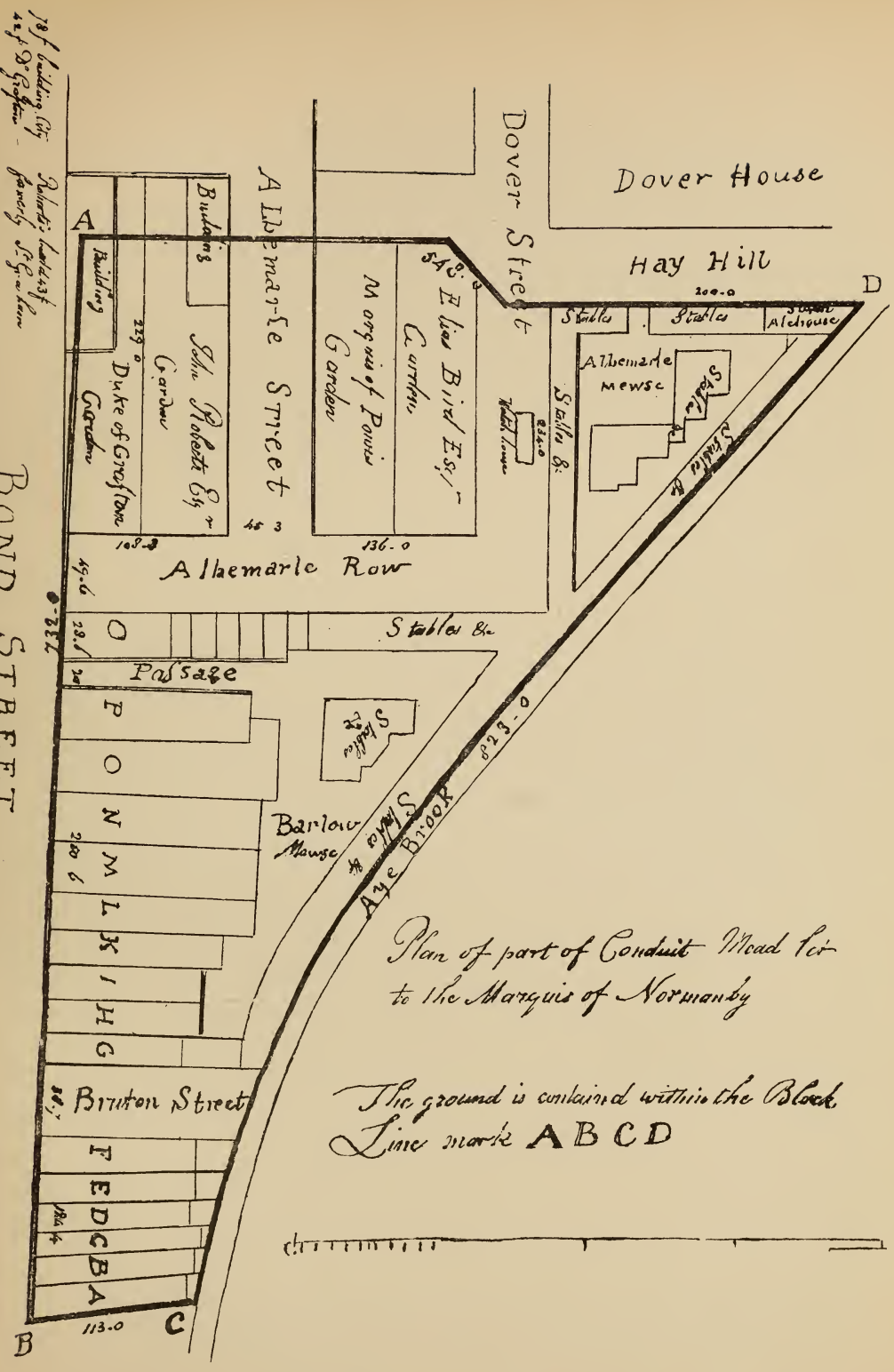
The building of Chester Square, Pimlico, was commenced about the year 1840, and the name was given in allusion to the fact that the seat of the Duke of Westminster, Eaton Hall, is situated near Chester.

Curzon Street.

George Augustus Curzon, third Viscount Howe, ancestor of the present Earl Howe, gave rise to the name of this street, a locality which has many interesting associations, and attained considerable notoriety on account of the clandestine marriages which were there performed by Keith. Readers of Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*, too, will be familiar with this street as containing the residence of Becky Sharp.

Davies Street.

It is supposed that this street took its name from Miss Mary Davies, daughter and heiress of Alexander Davies, of the manor of Ebury. By her marriage, in 1676, with Sir Thomas Grosvenor, the immense London estates were brought into the Grosvenor family. This lady died on the 12th of January, 1729-1730, after having been insane for several years.



PLAN OF PART OF CONDUIT MEAD, ABOUT 1720.

Eaton Square.

The building of this square was commenced in 1827, on what was called the Five Fields. The work was designed and carried out by Messrs. Cubitt. Eaton Hall, in Cheshire, one of the seats of the ground landlord, gives the name to the square.

Ebury Street.

Ebury Street and Ebury Square perpetuate the name of the ancient manor of Ebury. Ebury Square marks the site of the old manor-house.

Eccleston Street.

Eccleston Street, Pimlico, derives its name from Eccleston, in Cheshire, where the Duke of Westminster, the ground landlord of Pimlico, has a large property.

Grafton Street.

According to a paragraph of news in *The British Journal* of March 30th, 1723, it appears that the waste ground at the upper end of Albemarle Street and Dover Street was purchased by the Duke of Grafton and the Earl of Grantham for the purpose of gardening. The Duke of Grafton's house, from which the name of the street is derived, was at the south corner of Grafton and Bond Street, where was afterwards the Clarendon Hotel. In Sayer's map of 1767, Grafton Street was called Evans Row, and it was so named by Dodsley in 1761.

Lord Henniker's house, No. 6, Grafton Street, contains a room which was built expressly for the purpose of entertaining George IV. in. The house itself has some fine chimney-pieces and good ceilings, and was built about the Adams period.

Grosvenor Square.

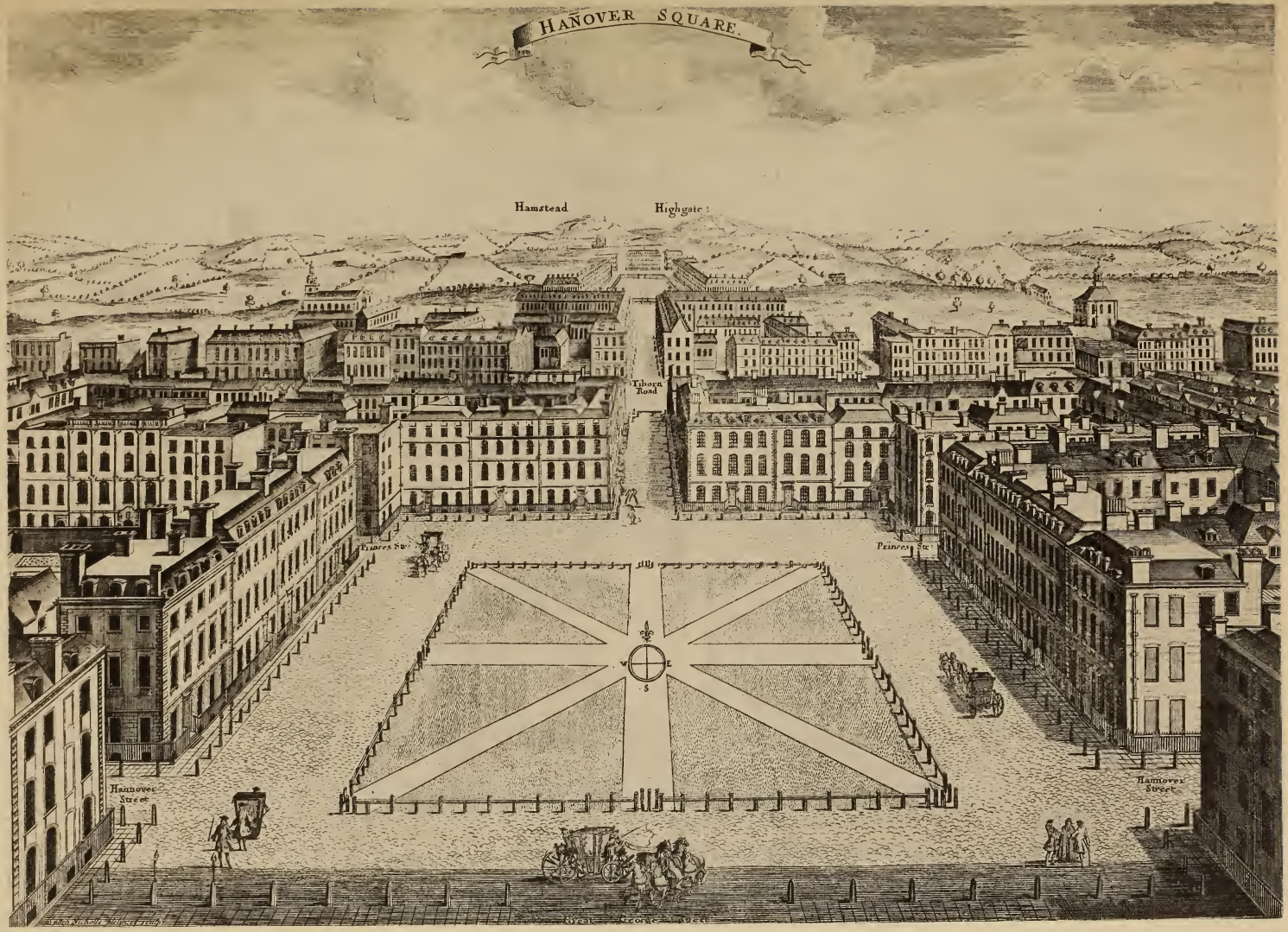
Grosvenor Square is not less remarkable for its aristocratic and fashionable inhabitants than for the nobility of its plan and buildings. It was commenced in 1695, and the space inclosed within the railings is six acres in extent. The name is derived from that of Sir Richard Grosvenor, a great builder in his day. He was cupbearer at the

coronation of George II., and he died in 1732. The centre, a spacious garden, was laid out by Kent, and is worthy of his landscape-gardening powers. The houses around it have been justly described as possessing all the finest features of a British nobleman's mansion—spaciousness.

In the centure of the enclosure, on the now vacant pedestal, was a doubly gilt equestrian statue of George I. by Van Nort. It was erected by Sir Richard Grosvenor in 1726, near the redoubt called Oliver's Mount, for the line of fortifications erected by the Londoners during the civil war ran across the space now occupied by Grosvenor Square. One night in March, 1727, the Jacobites maliciously defaced and mutilated the statue and attached a placard to it noways flattering to the original or his family. Sir Richard Grosvenor offered a hundred pounds as a reward for the conviction of the offender, but no discovery was ever made.

Hanover Square.

This square, containing an area of about two acres, was built about the year 1718. Its buildings, as well as those of George Street, exhibit many examples of the German style of architecture in private houses. The ground-plan of Hanover-square, with that of George Street, has been compared by a writer, endowed with somewhat imaginative faculties, to the form of a gridiron, George Street being supposed to represent the handle, and St. George's Church the knob. The upper end of George Street, towards the square, is laid out so much wider than at the other end, that it quite reverses the perspective, and shows the end of the vista broader than at the beginning. This arrangement was calculated to give a noble view of this square from its entrance, and a better prospect down the street from the other side, and both ways the effect answers the intention. A writer upon the subject considers that the view down George Street, from the upper side of the square, is one of the most entertaining in London: the sides of the square, the area in the middle, the breaks of building that form the entrance of the vista, the vista itself, but, above all, the beautiful projection of the portico of St. George's Church, are all circumstances that unite in beauty, and render the scene perfect. The view has been described as possessing more of the air of an Italian scene than any other in London.



HANOVER SQUARE, EARLY IN THE 18TH CENTURY.

Hughson, writing in his account of London, in 1811, says:—"On the east side of the square are the *Concert Rooms*, which were originally opened under the conduct of Messrs. Harrison and Knyvett. The plan of the undertaking was for vocal concerts, to consist of airs, glees, duets, and other pieces in parts, accompanied occasionally by instrumental music. The organ, by Elliot, is universally admired for its powers, and the beauty of its tone. It has two sets of keys, the great organ and swell, with all the various stops common in large organs. The diapasons are upon a larger scale than any other in London. The bellows act upon an entirely new principle, the invention of Mr. Elliot. On the north side of the square is Harewood House. This noble mansion was originally built from an elegant design of Messrs. Adam, for the late Duke of Roxburgh. After his grace's decease it was purchased by Lord Harewood, and took its present name from that circumstance."

The fine bronze statue of William Pitt, standing on the south side of the square, and boldly looking down George Street, was set up in the year 1831. It is the work of Sir Francis Chantrey, and cost £7,000. It bears this inscription:—

WILLIAM PITT
BORN
MDCCLIX
DIED
MDCCCVI.

The Zoological Society of London, the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, the Library Association of the United Kingdom, the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, the Pathological Society, the Clinical Society of London, and the Obstetrical Society of London have their offices in this square. The Royal Orthopædic Hospital also is situated here.

Hay Hill.

There is something about the name of this locality pleasantly suggestive of rural scenery, and as a matter of fact, it took its name from Hay Hill Farm, which was formerly situated in this neighbourhood, The name of that farm was undoubtedly taken from that of the Eye

or Aye Brook, which formerly crossed the gardens of Lansdowne House.

In the year 1554 this was the scene of a skirmish between a party of the insurgent followers of Sir Thomas Wyatt and another of the royal army, in which the former were repulsed. After the execution of Sir Thomas, on the 11th of April, 1554, his head on that account was set up on a gallows at Hay Hill, and his parboiled quarters in different parts of the neighbourhood of London. Three of the insurgents were also hung in chains near the head of their leader.

Hay Hill was granted by Queen Anne to the then Speaker of the House of Commons. Much clamour was made about it, as a bribe of great consequence, and the Speaker sold it for two hundred pounds, and gave the proceeds to the poor. The Pomfret family afterwards purchased it, and about the year 1760, or a little before that time, it was sold for £20,300.

An attempt was made at Hay Hill to rob the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV. The following interesting account of the affair was printed in *Notes and Queries*, 3rd series, vol iv., p. 36.

"The late Colonel Lowther, for 40 years M.P. for Westmoreland, and a cousin of James, Earl of Lonsdale, was a constant companion of George IV., when Prince of Wales, in the Carlton House revels at the close of the last century. He frequently described to me the attack on the Prince of Wales. . . The Prince and a party, among whom was old Colonel Lowther, General Hulse and others whose names I do not remember, had been to a house of ill-repute in Berkeley Street. They were returning up Hay Hill, when they were stopped, and their money demanded by a man who presented a pistol at them. Among them all they could only muster half-a-crown. When they passed on the Prince remarked 'Don't you know the fellow who robbed us? I could swear to him anywhere; it is Champneys, the singer.' No stir was made about the event or the apprehension of the offender. The house at which they had been amusing themselves was a sufficient reason for the Prince to avoid exposure. These are the circumstances precisely as narrated to me more than forty years ago by Colonel Lowther, one of the party.

"SENEX."

Lowndes Square.

A glance at the Map of the Grosvenor Estate, 1723, reproduced in this volume, will show the origin of the name Lowndes Square. It will there be seen that a field, shaped roughly like a crescent, was in the early part of the eighteenth century the property of Mr. Lowndes. It was situated near the eastern boundary of the parish, which was marked by the course of the river Westbourne, and Lowndes Square now occupies pretty much the site of that field.

The field was also mentioned on Rocque's map of 1746, as then belonging to "Lowndes, Esq.," the ground landlord, a descendant of William Lowndes, Secretary to the Treasury in the reign of Queen Anne.

The building of Lowndes Square was carried on during the years 1837 to 1839.

Lupus Street.

The name Lupus is probably derived from Hugh Lupus, the great Norman Earl of Chester, from a nephew of whom the Grosvenor Family traces its descent.

The Marble Arch.

Near the site of the gallows at Tyburn there used formerly to stand a mean brick building comprising an arch with side entrances, and fitted with wooden gates. It was built as an entrance to Hyde Park, about the year 1744, at the expense of the inhabitants of Cumberland Place and its neighbourhood, and took its name of Cumberland Gate after the Duke of Cumberland, who celebrated himself as the hero of Culloden. Soon after its erection the gateway was generally called "Tyburn Gate," from the gallows which stood close by.

In August, 1821, upon the occasion of the funeral of Queen Caroline, Cumberland Gate was the scene of a disgraceful conflict between the people and the soldiery. Two persons were killed by shots from the Horse Guards on duty.

In 1822 the unsightly brick arch and wooden gates were removed, and in their place some handsome iron gates were set up, at a cost of nearly £2,000. In 1851 these gates were removed in order to make

room for the Marble Arch which now occupies the site, and the iron gates were placed on each side of it.

The Marble Arch, first erected in front of the chief entrance to Buckingham Palace, and called "Buckingham Palace Arch," was adapted by Mr. Nash from the Arch of Constantine at Rome, and constructed at a cost of £80,000, the metal gates alone costing £3,000. Its removal in the year 1851 to its present position cost £11,000.

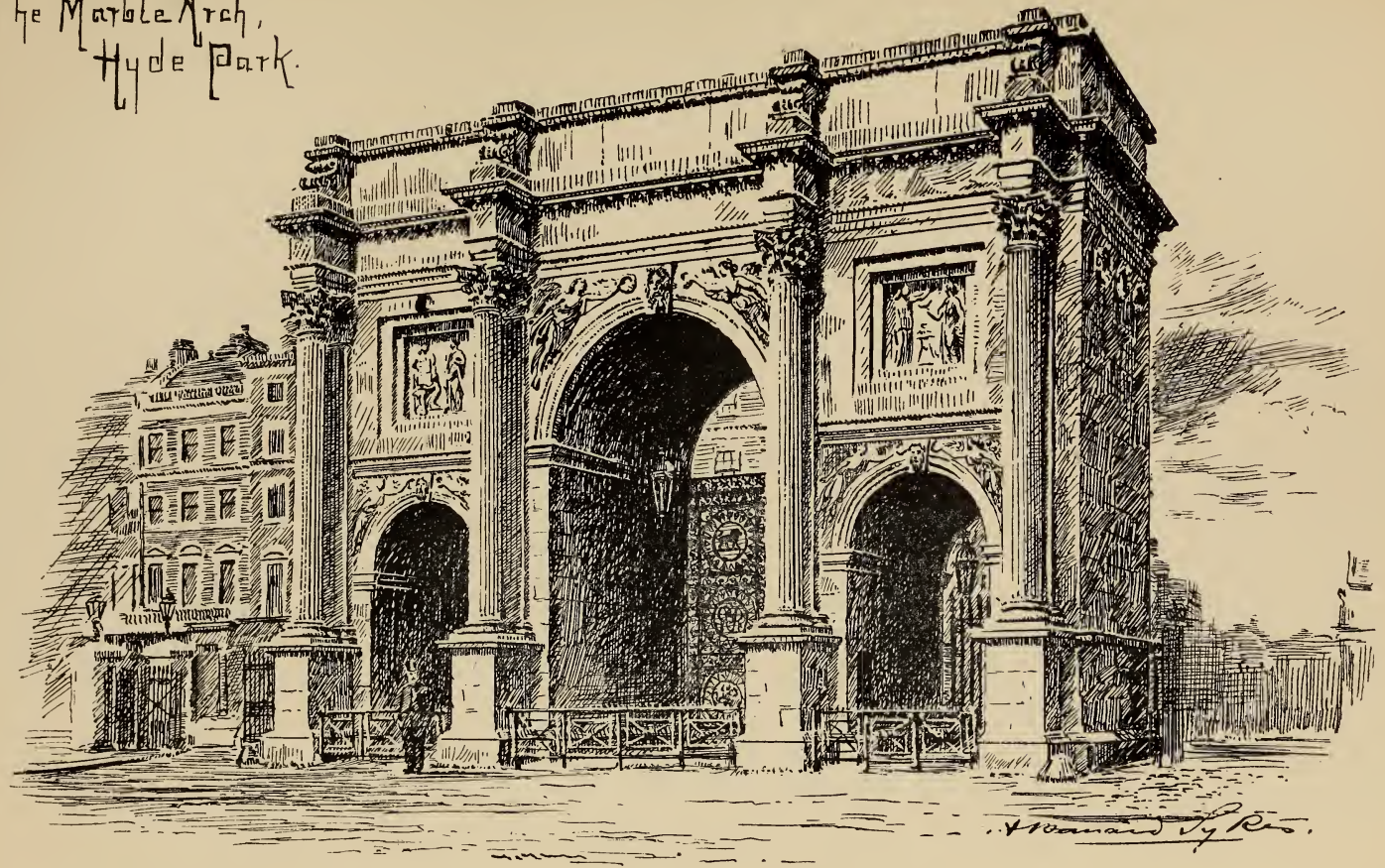
The material of which it is constructed is Carrara marble, and it consists of a centre gateway and two side openings. On each face are four Corinthian columns, the other sculpture being a keystone to the centre archway, and a pair of figures in the spandrils, a panel of figures over each side entrance, and wreaths at each end. These were executed by Flaxman, Westmacott, and Rossi. The centre gates are bronzed, and ornamented with a beautiful scroll-work, with six openings, two filled with St. George and the Dragon, two with "G. R." and above, two lions *passant guardant*. The gates were designed and cast by Samuel Parker, of Argyle Street, and are said to be the largest and most superb in Europe, not excepting those of the Ducal Palace at Venice, or of the Louvre at Paris. The frieze and semi-circle intended to fill up the archway—the most beautiful part of the design—were unfortunately mutilated in the removal, and could not be restored.

The Marble Arch was originally intended to have been surmounted by an equestrian statue of King George IV., by Sir Francis Chantrey, but the intention was never carried into execution.

Oxford Street.

In consequence of this road being the thoroughfare from the City to Tyburn, and therefore the way by which criminals were brought to the place of their execution, during the time that the gallows stood close to the spot now occupied by the Marble Arch, this street was known as Tyburn Road. Pennant tells us that in 1716, Oxford Street, or rather Tyburn Road, as it was then called, from Prince's Street eastward, as far as High Street, St. Giles's, was almost unbuilt upon on the north side. He says, "I remember there was a deep hollow road and full of sloughs: there was here and there a ragged house, the lurking-place of cut-throats: insomuch that I never was taken that way by night, in my

The Marble Arch,
Hyde Park.



hackney-coach, to a worthy uncle's, who gave me lodgings at his house in George Street, but I went in dread the whole way. The south side was built as far as Swallow Street."

Morden and Lea's *Plan of the City of London*, published in 1732, shows that the north side of Oxford Street for a considerable distance, reaching from the corner of Tottenham Court Road almost to Cavendish Square, was unbuilt upon, with the exception of a few small buildings round about the corner of Tottenham Court Road.

The name Oxford Street was given to the road from the fact of its leading to that city, but it is uncertain at what time that name was first applied to it. It is on record, however, that a stone in the walls of No. 1, Oxford Street, was at one time inscribed with the words and date —"Oxford Street, 1725."

Piccadilly.

The origin of this curious name is thus accounted for by Pennant: "At the upper end of the Haymarket stood *Piccadillia-hall*, where *Piccadillias* or *Turn-overs* were sold, which gave name to that vast street, called from that circumstance, *Piccadilly*."

The earliest allusion to Piccadilly is supposed to be that in Gerard's *Herbal*, 1633, an allusion which has the additional interest of illustrating the very rural character of the neighbourhood at that date. The reference is as follows:—"The small wild buglosse grows upon the drie ditch banks about Pickadilla"

Mr. Wheatley, however, has discovered, in the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, a reference to the name of "Pickadilley Halle" prior to the date 1623. A good many explanations of the origin of the name, too, have been put forth by different writers. Thus, Blount, in his *Glossographia*, 1656, says:—"A Pikadil is that round hem, or the several divisions set together about the skirt of a garment or other thing; also a kind of stiff collar, made in fashion of a band. Hence, perhaps, the famous ordinary near St. James's, called Pickadilly, took denomination, because it was then the outmost, or skirt house of the suburbs, that way. Others say that it took its name from this; that one Higgins, a Tailor, who built it, got most of his estate by Pickadilles, which in the last age were much worn in England."

The western half of Piccadilly was at one time called Portugal Street, after Catherine of Portugal, Queen of Charles II. The old name of Pall Mall was Catherine Street. The name of Portugal Street appears to have been used as early as the year 1664, when the north side extended as far as Air Street. The south side was built in 1665. In 1671 it extended as far as Sackville Street, and in 1686 to Dover Street, then newly built. In the Act for creating the Parish of St. James's (which consisted of an area severed from the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields) in 1685, the churchyard is described as fronting "towards Piccadilly Street, alias Portugal Street." Portugal Street remained the official name until about 1750, but many years previously Piccadilly had popularly superseded it.

The turnpike, which in 1721 was removed to Hyde Park Corner, was, previously to that time, situated at the end of Berkeley Street, and all beyond was the great Western Road, which was without a pavement. This portion of the street, if such it might be called, was for many years in a very bad and dangerous state, coaches being frequently either overturned in it or being stopped by highwaymen.

In 1692, Sir Robert Atkyns, Chief Baron of the Exchequer and Speaker of the House of Lords, was living at Kensington, and on the first of March, the day appointed for a conference between the Lords and Commons, he did not make his appearance, and the Lords were obliged to choose a temporary Speaker in the Duke of Somerset. Sir Robert Atkyn's non-attendance is explained in the following curious passage from the Lords' Journals:—

"A message was sent to the House of Commons by Sir Miles Cook and Sir Adam Ottley: To let the Commons know that the Speaker of the House of Lords, living two miles out of town, and the badness of the roads at this present, was the only occasion of their Lordships not coming to the conference at the time appointed."

Forty years after this the passage seems to have been as difficult, for Lord Hervey, writing to his mother from Kensington, in November, 1736, says, "The road between this place and London is grown so infamously bad that we live here in the same solitude as we should do if cast on a rock in the middle of the ocean, and all the Londoners tell us there is between them and us a great impassable gulf of mud. There are

Piccadilly.
[from the West.]
A Bernard Hyde

two roads through the park, but the new one is so convex, and the old one so concave, that by this extreme of faults they agree in the common one of being, like the high road, impassable."

Westbourne Place.

Westbourne Place, close by the Sloane Square Station, on the Underground Railway, preserves the memory and marks one point in the course of the river Westbourne.

Wilton Crescent.

The name of Wilton Crescent is derived from the acquisition by a Grosvenor of the Grey de Wilton title and lands.

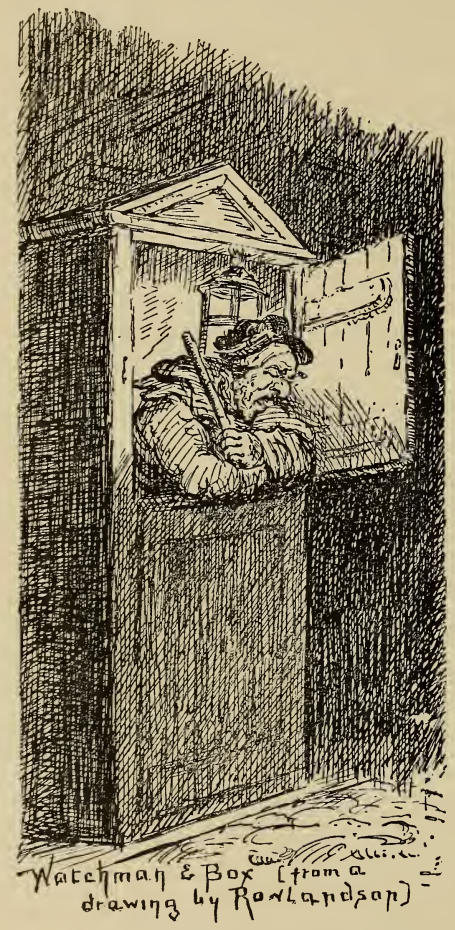
BEATING THE BOUNDS.

An amusing incident respecting the periodical beating of the boundary of the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, is recorded in the *Book of Days, vol.* I., *p.* 584. As the church-wardens, parish officers, etc., followed by a concourse of cads, were perambulating the bounds in procession upon one occasion, they came to a part of a street where a nobleman's coach was standing just across the boundary-line. The carriage was empty, waiting for the owner, who was in the opposite house. The principal church-warden, therefore, himself a nobleman, desired the coachman to drive it out of their way. "I won't," said the sturdy coachman, "my lord told me to wait here, and here I'll wait till his lordship tells me to move." The church-warden coolly opened the carriage-door, entered it, passed through the opposite door, and was followed by the whole procession, cads, sweeps, and scavengers.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE WATCH.

Provision for the proper regulation of the public streets, and the protection of property, was made by an Act of Parliament (29 Geo. III. Chap. 75) by which it was directed that the vestry should appoint fifteen persons, being householders residing within the parish, "who shall be called the *Committee of the Watch*, and all such persons shall continue in office until others shall be appointed in their stead; and any three or more of the said Committee may exercise any of the

powers hereby vested in the said Committee; and the said Committee shall hire and employ such able-bodied Men to be the Beadles, Watchmen, and Patrols for the said Parish, as they shall think proper, and shall direct in what Manner the Watchmen and Patrols shall be armed, and how long they shall continue on Duty, and shall make such Rules, Orders, and Regulations, for the better governing of the said Beadles, Watchmen, and Patrols, as they shall from time to time judge proper."



Watchmen in general were selected from the lowest classes, such as porters, Irish labourers, and such like characters, who had been employed all the preceding day, and the necessities of whose families, possibly, compelled them to earn an extra shilling. A contemporary writer says, "If they should not chance to be asleep when interruptions from robbers, pick-pockets, night-walkers, or accidents by fire happen, they might be of some use by the noise which they could make with their rattles; it, however, too frequently occurs, that they are asleep or absent from their boxes when their presence is most desired; and it is to be feared, from many recent complaints before the magistrates, and convictions at the quarter sessions, that the watchmen are guilty of sins of commission as well as of omission. They not only levy contributions on unfortunate women to permit them to walk the streets, and receive bribes to dismiss complaints that have been charged against violators of the peace; but they have been convicted of interrupting and assaulting passengers who were quietly passing along the streets,

with the view of promoting quarrels. Where this succeeds the injured party is captured by these preservers of the peace, carried to the watch-house, and charged with rioting, or possibly with an assault, should an intercepted passenger have been provoked to inflict a blow. Rather than be doomed to a night's lodging in a dirty watch-house, and afterwards to appear at a police-office at the charge of a crowd of watchmen, a compromise is injudiciously offered, and seldom refused. It is a duty to the public to pursue a directly different conduct—to await the event of the morning, and to state the whole case to the magistrates. They will always afford justice, and grant protection against the designs of the watchmen."

The watch-houses were placed at convenient spots in all parts, and were intended for the convenience of parochial constables who there attended to keep order, receive offenders, and deliver them the next morning to the sitting magistrates. The nightly watch was of peculiar utility in cases of fire, as in every watch-book the names of the turncocks, and the stations of the fire-engines were entered. Shakespeare's specimens of the watchmen, who sat upon the church-bench till two, and then all went to bed, was doubtless a true picture of many of these preservers of the public peace in the olden time.

There are some interesting remnants of past and long out-of-date customs in many places in Mayfair. The iron standards close by the main entrance door-way to some of the large houses still retain their old iron, trumpet-shaped, extinguishers for links. In some cases the iron ring for the support of a lantern still remains over or near the door-way. These quaint and now obsolete appliances provided a means of partial illumination on dark nights before the time when adequate public artificial light was provided for that purpose by the authorities. Some interesting and artistic examples of these curious objects of the

The Beadle.

Georgian period may still be seen in several places in this locality, notably at Berkeley Square and Grafton Street. They serve to remind the present generation of the days when the watchmen perambulated our streets for the purpose of "comprehending all vagrom men;" when link-boys waited outside the doors of the wealthy in order to illuminate the homeward way of the diners-out; and when the beadle was a substantial reality, and an object of terror to evil-doers.

Hyde Park Corner
& Apsley House

CHAPTER X.

PLEASURE GARDENS AND OLD TAVERNS.

The Mulberry Garden.—Jenny's Whim.—Other Gardens.—The Bag of Nails.—The Cheesecake House.—The Curd and Whey House.—The Dwarf Tavern.—The Gloucester Coffee House, Piccadilly.—Hercules' Pillars.—The Running Footman.—The Three Kings Inn.—The Triumphant Chariot.—The White Bear, Piccadilly.—The White Horse Cellar, Piccadilly.—Derby Ale.

THE MULBERRY GARDEN.

JAMES I.'s efforts, in the year 1608, to encourage the cultivation of silkworms and the production of silk in this country, lead to the importation of many thousands of mulberry-trees from France. Some of the trees, which were intended to provide food for the silkworms, were planted under the King's own directions near St. James's Palace. The rest were dispersed through all the counties, with circular letters directing the planting of the trees, and giving instructions for the breeding and feeding of silkworms. An edition of these "Instructions," published in 1609, contains many curious particulars, and three full-page woodcuts of a highly interesting character.

It is probable that many of the ancient mulberry trees occasionally met with in isolated gardens in various parts of the country are either specimens of the trees which James I. caused to be sent out, or their descendants.

Charles I. does not appear to have taken so much interest in this experiment as his father, for we find that in 1629 a grant was made to Walter, Lord Ashton, &c., of "the custody of the garden, mulberry-trees, and silkworms near St. James's, in the County of Middlesex." Evelyn refers to the Mulberry Gardens during the time of the Commonwealth as the only place of refreshment about the town for "persons of the best quality to be

exceedingly cheated at." It does not appear at what time these gardens were devoted to the purposes of amusement and refreshment in the manner indicated in Evelyn's reference, but as he does not speak of the Mulberry Garden as anything novel, it is probable it had long been used as a pleasure garden.

A passage in Pepys's *Diary*, dated the 20th of May, 1668, mentions a visit to this garden, but speaks rather disparagingly of its attractions. He writes:—"To the Mulberry Garden, where I never was before, and find it a very silly place, worse than Spring garden, and but little company, only a wilderness here that is somewhat pretty." Writing again of the garden under the date of April 5th, 1669, Pepys says:—"To the Mulberry Garden, where Sheres is to treat us with a Spanish Olio, by a cook of his acquaintance that is there, that was with my Lord (Sandwich) in Spain; and without any other company he did do it and mighty nobly; and the Olio was indeed a very noble dish, such as I never saw better, or any more of. This and the discourse he did give us of Spain, and description of the Escuriall, was a fine treat. So we left other good things that would keep till night, for a collation . . . we anon . . . to the Mulberry Garden; and there after a walk, to supper upon what was left at noon; and very good."

The Mulberry Garden was alluded to by several of our old dramatists. Shadwell, in the *Humourist*, makes one of his characters to say: "The garden was very full, Madam, of gentlemen and ladies, that made love together till twelve o'clock at night." Cheesecakes and arbours are mentioned by another writer as constituting some of the attractions of the place.

The Mulberry Garden, as a place of entertainment, was closed about the year 1674, although the name was retained as late as 1762, and Buckingham Palace and Gardens now occupy the chief part of its site.

One of the most interesting associations connected with the Mulberry Gardens is that Dryden used occasionally to take there his friend Mrs. Reeve, a pretty actress of Killigrew's troop, and solace her with mulberry tarts; "no inelegant pleasure," remarks Sir Walter Scott. In allusion to the same delicacies, the author of *Pursuits of Literature* says:—

> "Nor he who essence wit and taste approved,
> Forgot the mulberry tarts which Dryden loved."

JENNY'S WHIM.

A tavern and tea garden bearing this singular name once stood at the end of the Wooden Bridge known as Ebury Bridge, over what was formerly a cut or reservoir of the Chelsea Waterworks, between Chelsea and Pimlico. The last vestige of it was obliterated in 1865, when the great widening of the Victoria Station took place.

It is not known exactly what circumstance led to the choice of this name, but the nature of the entertainments was quite sufficient to justify the word "whim;" many of the sights being novel and startling. In Angelo's *Pic-Nic* there is an account of the place, from whence we learn that "Jenny's Whim" was a tea-garden, situated, after passing over a wooden bridge, on the left, previous to entering a long avenue, the coach way to where Ranelagh once stood. This place was much frequented, from its novelty, being an inducement to allure the curious, by its amusing deceptions, particularly on their first appearance there. Here was a large garden, in different parts of which were recesses; and if treading on a spring, taking you by surprise, up started different figures, some ugly enough to frighten you—a harlequin, a Mother Shipton, or some terrific animal. In a large piece of water, facing the tea alcoves, large fish, or mermaids, were showing themselves above the surface. This queer *spectacle* was first kept by a famous merchant, who had been employed at one of the winter theatres, there being then but two."

The proprietors of these gardens catered for the lower classes. Upon calling for a pot of beer, the customer was allowed to see Perrot's inimitable grotto gratuitously; and upon paying his sixpence for a decanter of Dorchester, he was permitted to witness the royal diversion of duck-hunting without additional payment. There appears to have been a good deal of drinking at Jenny's Whim. Horace Walpole, writing to Montagu in 1750, mentions the fact of having picked up at the Vauxhall Gardens, "Lord Granby, arrived very drunk from Jenny's Whim."

The origin of the name is uncertain, but Mr. H. G. Davis, in his *Memorials of Knightsbridge*, thus attempts to solve it:—"I never could unearth the origin of its name, but I presume the tradition told me by an old inhabitant of the neighbourhood is correct, namely, that it was so

called after its first landlady, who caused the gardens round her house to be laid out in so fantastic a manner as to cause the expressive little noun to be affixed to the pretty and familiar Christian name that she bore."

Among the remaining gardens in this neighbourhood were the "Gun" Tavern and Tea-gardens, with convenient arbours and costume figures. These gardens were removed to make way for improvements at Buckingham Gate. The "Star and Garter" Tavern was situated at the end of Five-Field's Row, and was at one time famous for fireworks, dancing, and equestrianism. The "Orange," with its pleasure gardens, occupied as nearly as possible the site of St. Barnabas' Church.

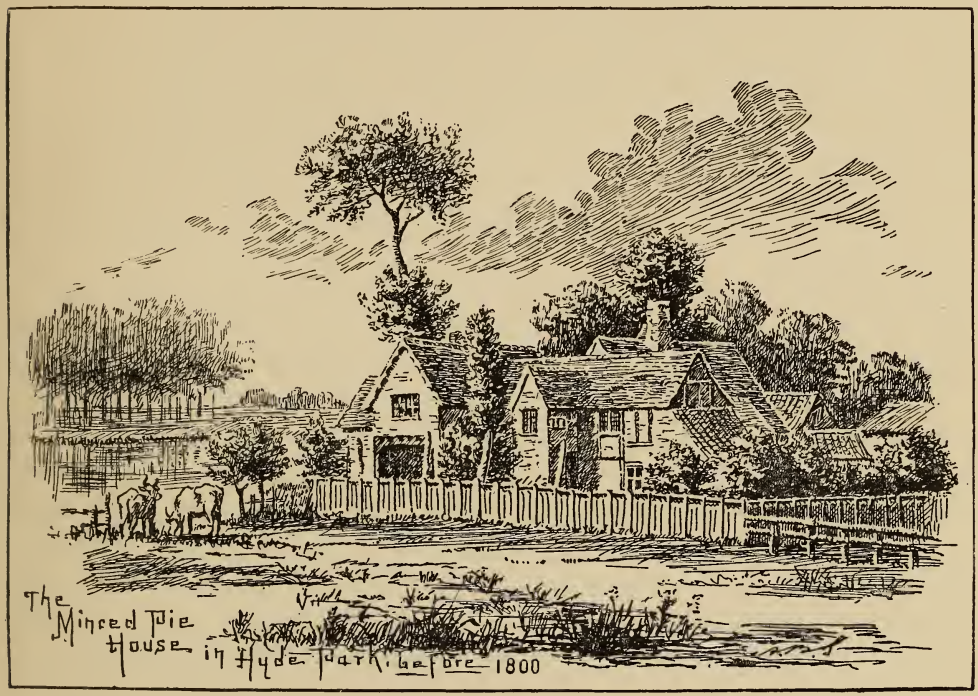
THE BAG OF NAILS.

A tavern by this name formerly stood at the corner of Arabella Row (changed to Lower Grosvenor Place in 1879) and Buckingham Palace Road. The following account appeared in *Tavern Anecdotes*, 1825:—"About fifty years ago, the original sign might have been seen at the front of the house, which was a satyr of the woods, and a group of jolly dogs, ycleped Bacchanals. But the satyr having been painted with cloven feet, and painted black, it was by the common people called the Devil, while the Bacchanalians were transmuted by a comical process into a Bag of Nails." This was, however, only an old slang name for the house; for, in the trial of Catlin, Patterson, and others, for conspiracy, one of the witnesses, describing the place where the conspirators used to meet, says:—"He went into a public-house the sign of the Devil and Bag of Nails, for so the gentry called it amongst themselves (though it was the Blackamoor's Head and Woolpack), by Buckingham Gate." In the case of some public-houses a *bona-fide* representation of a bag of nails was used as a sign. There is at the present day a public-house of this sign at No. 6, Buckingham Palace Road.

THE CHEESECAKE HOUSE.

This house of refreshment, called also the Moated House, Mince Pie House, and Cake House, stood until about 1836, upon the spot where the road now runs in front of the Receiving House of the

Royal Humane Society, in Hyde Park. It is probable that this was the same house as that known as Mrs. Price's, "where are incomparable syllabubs." Price's Lodge was mentioned in the evidence at the coroner's inquest on the Duke of Hamilton's and Lord Mohun's duel.



The Grave Maurice's Head was famous in the reign of James I. for cheesecakes, tarts, and syllabubs, and probably was the same house. Shirley mentions it in a line in his *Hyde Park*:—

"I have sent my footman
To the Maurice for a bottle."

Pepys refers to this house in his *Diary* under the date of the 3rd of June, 1668:—"To Westminster, and thence to the Park, where much good company, and many fine ladies; and in so handsome a hackney I was, that I believe Sir W. Coventry and others who looked on me, did take me to be in one of my own, which I was a little troubled for. So to the lodge, and drank a cup of new milk, and so home."

The Cake House in the time of Charles II. served as a drinking house, or place where refreshments were sold. It was sometimes called "Price's Lodge," from the name of Gervase Price, the chief under-keeper of Hyde Park.

In Howard's *English Monsieur*, 1674, it is thus referred to:—"Nay, 'tis no London female, she's a thing that never saw a cheesecake, a tart, or a syllabub at the Lodge in Hyde Park."

In Queen Anne's time it was more generally called the Cake House, or Mince-pie House, and according to the fashion which still continued to prevail, the beaux and belles used to go there to refresh themselves.

The house was a timber and plaster building, and was taken down in the early part of the nineteenth century.

A pretty engraving of "The Cheesecake House, in Hyde Park," was published, with a brief account of the building, in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for May, 1801, p. 401.

THE CURD AND WHEY HOUSE

was situated near Hyde Park Corner. This house, with its sheds, the last remaining vestige of the old lodge, was removed in the year 1825 to make way for the new lodge and entrance, built facing Grosvenor Place. During the intervals of the races in Hyde Park, milkmaids went round with milk, crying "Milk of a red cow," exactly as they continued to cry a century after at Milk Fair in St. James's Park.

THE DWARF TAVERN.

A tavern bearing this sign used in the last century to stand in Chelsea Fields, in the vicinity of Pimlico. It was kept by John Coan, a Norfolk dwarf, and probably its sign was given in consequence of that circumstance. It seems to have been a place of some attraction, since it was honoured by the repeated visits of an Indian King. A paragraph in the *Daily Advertiser* of the 12th of July, 1762, reads thus:—"On Friday last the Cherokee King and his two chiefs were so greatly pleased with the curiosities of the Dwarf's Tavern in Chelsea Fields, that they were there again on Sunday at seven in the evening to drink tea, and will be there again in a few days." John Coan, the proprietor, died at the Dwarf Tavern on the 16th of March, 1764.

THE GLOUCESTER COFFEE HOUSE, PICCADILLY.

This house was for many years kept by a family named Dale, and was one of the regular offices at which the West Country mail coaches called on their way through the West End of London. Another house where the coaches called was *The Green Man and Still, Piccadilly.*

Upon the ancient site of the Gloucester Coffee House, the *St. James's Hotel* (now called the *Berkeley Hotel*) was built. It is situated at No. 77, Piccadilly, close by Devonshire House.

HERCULES' PILLARS.

A small inn or public-house, a little west of Hamilton Place, Hyde Park Corner, was so named. Hercules' Pillars was the Classic name for the Straits of Gibraltar, which in early days was regarded as the boundary of civilization. It may be that the situation of this house outside the limits of London had something to do with the choice of the sign. It is mentioned in an advertisement in the *London Gazette* in 1730, and referred to by Wycherley in the *Plain Dealer*, 1676. Readers of *Tom Jones* will doubtless remember that this was the place where Squire Western put up his horses when in pursuit of Tom Jones.

Public-houses bearing this sign were occasionally found in the outskirts of large towns, and the sign generally represented the demi-god standing between the pillars, or pulling the pillars down—a strange cross between the stories of the Biblical and the Pagan Hercules.

Piccadilly Terrace was built by the brothers Adam upon the site of the Hercules' Pillars.

THE RUNNING FOOTMAN.

In Hayes Mews, running northwards between Charles Street and Hill Street, there is a public-house bearing the sign of "The Running Footman," much frequented by the servants of the neighbouring gentry. Upon the sign-board is represented a tall, agile man in gay attire, and with a stick having a metal ball at the top. He is represented in the act of running, and underneath are the words, "I am the only running footman."

The custom of keeping running footmen survived to such recent

times that Sir Walter Scott remembered seeing the state-coach of John, Earl of Hopetown, attended by one of the fraternity, "clothed in white, and bearing a staff." It is believed that the Duke of Queensbury —"Old Q," as he was generally called—who died in 1810, kept up the practice longer than any other of the London grandees. An amusing anecdote is told of a man who came to be hired by that ancient but far from venerable peer. The Duke was in the habit of trying the pace of candidates for his service by seeing how they could run up and down Piccadilly, watching and timing them from his balcony. They put on livery before the trial. On one occasion a candidate presented himself dressed, and ran. At the conclusion of his performance he stood before the balcony. "You will do very well for me," said the Duke. "And your livery will do very well for me," replied the man, and gave the Duke a last proof of his ability as a runner by then running away with it.

THE THREE KINGS INN.

This inn stood on the site of No. 75, Piccadilly, afterwards the antiquarian book-shop of Mr. Hotten, and from this inn-yard General Palmer started the first Bath mail coach. At the gateway were preserved for many years the two columns which were supposed to be the only remains of Clarendon House: they were removed in the year 1864.

THE TRIUMPHANT CHARIOT.

Between the three houses next to Apsley House and Hamilton Place was a row of small houses, one of which was a public-house, bearing the sign of the "Triumphant Chariot." It was a watering-place for the hackney-coaches, and by the kerb-stone in front of it was a bench for the porters, and a board over it for depositing their loads. Such resting-places for that strong-backed fraternity were once universal in front of this class of houses.

The sign of the Triumphal Chariot or Triumphal Car was in all probability bestowed upon the house in honour of the soldiers who used to visit it. These public-houses near Hyde Park were much resorted to by the soldiers on Sundays, or more particularly on review-days, when there were long wooden seats fixed in the street before the

WEST COUNTRY MAILS AT THE GLOUCESTER COFFEE HOUSE, PICCADILLY.

houses for the accommodation of six or seven barbers, who were employed on field days in powdering those youths who were not adroit enough to dress each other's hair. Yet it was not unusual for twenty or thirty of the older soldiers to bestride a form in the open air, where each combed, soaped, powdered, and tied the hair of his comrade, and afterwards underwent the same operation himself.

Among other public-houses in this neighbourhood were the Red Lion, the Swan, the Golden Lion, the Horse-shoe, the Running Horse, the Barley Mow, the White Horse, and the Half-moon, which last two have given names to two streets in Piccadilly.

THE WHITE BEAR, PICCADILLY.

As early as the year 1685 this inn is mentioned in the sexton's book of St. Martin's. It was situated at the east end of Piccadilly, and was, for more than a century, one of the busiest coaching houses in this busy road leading out of London.

In this house died Luke Sullivan, engraver of some of Hogarth's works; also Chatelaine, another engraver; the latter was in such penurious circumstances that he was buried at the expense of some friends in the poor-ground of St. James's Workhouse. It was in this inn that West passed the first night in London on his arrival from America.

THE WHITE HORSE CELLAR, PICCADILLY,

was in existence as early as 1720, and for more than a century during the old coaching days was a widely known and extensively patronised house. It was the starting place of the mail-coaches bound for Oxford and the West of England. It was so named by Williams, the landlord, in honour of the accession of the House of Hanover to the English throne.

Hatchett's Hotel and New White Horse Cellar, at the corner of Dover Street, is the stabling place of the four-horse coaches which are run every summer.

Derby Ale seems to have been a celebrated beverage in the metropolis as early as Queen Elizabeth's reign. Greene, in his comedy *Tu quoque,* makes Sir Lionel Rash to say:—"I have sent my daughter this morning

as far as Pimlico, to fetch a draught of Derby Ale, that it may fetch a colour into her cheeks."

"Right Lincoln Ale" was advertised as one of the attractive features of the duck-hunting at the "Dog and Duck, Mayfair," in 1748.

CHAPTER XI.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851, &c.

Plans for the Exhibition Building.—Paxton's Plans accepted.—The Exhibition opened by the Queen.—The Crystal Palace removed to Sydenham.—The Egyptian Hall.—Bullock's Museum.—Mr. Maskelyne's Entertainment.—The Pantherion.—St. James's Hall.

THE idea of gathering together in one place the best specimens of art, skill, and industrial appliances from every part of the world, as well as the natural productions of every soil and climate, seems to have been first conceived, or at any rate, first seriously entertained, by the late Prince Consort. The exhibitions which had been previously held in England had been of a national character, but the new one was novel in that it was to be made up of exhibits from all nations. It was to be the "World's Fair," and was to contain specimens of everything great, or beautiful, or useful.

On the 3rd of January, 1850, the Queen gave her royal sanction to this gigantic undertaking; and on the 11th of the same month the Royal Commissioners held their first meeting. On the 21st of March the Lord Mayor of London invited the Mayors of nearly all the cities, boroughs, and towns of the United Kingdom to a banquet at the Mansion House to meet the Prince Consort, who upon that occasion explained the object of the proposed undertaking.

The Exhibition, it was announced, was to belong exclusively to the people themselves of every nation, instead of being supported and controlled by their respective governments. The sum of twenty thousand pounds was set apart for the provision of the prizes which were to be awarded to the successful competitors. The project was sufficiently gigantic to deter the Commissioners, but, in addition, the scheme at

first was not received favourably by the manufacturers and merchants of foreign countries, who imagined that any beneficial results which might follow the exhibition would be felt mainly or entirely by England. In order to diffuse information upon the subject, lecturers and agents were sent throughout the country. They explained the objects of the Great Exhibition, and the advantages likely to arise from it. The date for the Exhibition was fixed for the first of May, 1851, and then the great difficulty presented itself of finding a building sufficiently large to contain all the exhibits which it was proposed to bring together. The directors were for a time perplexed, for they found, on calculation, that no building on earth would be sufficiently large to contain a tithe of its contents. A great many plans were considered, and it is somewhat remarkable that the one which was finally adopted was only sent in at the eleventh hour. Nearly two hundred and fifty plans were sent in, but none of them appeared to be satisfactory, and therefore the committee set to work to perfect a design of their own, selecting the various details from what appeared best in the designs submitted to them.

The story of the adopted glass building has been so well told by Mr. (afterwards Sir Joseph) Paxton, that we give his own words:—

"It was not until one morning when I was present with my friend, Mr. Ellis, at an early sitting in the House of Commons, that the idea of sending in a design appeared to me. A conversation took place between us with reference to the construction of the new House of Commons, in the course of which I observed, that I was afraid they would also commit a blunder in the building for the Industrial Exhibition; I told him that I had a notion in my head, and that if he would accompany me to the Board of Trade I would ascertain whether it was too late to send in a design. I asked the Executive Committee whether they were so far committed to the plans as to be precluded from receiving another; the answer was, 'Certainly not, the specifications will be out in a fortnight, but there is no reason why a clause should not be introduced, allowing the reception of another design.' I said, 'Well, if you will introduce such a clause, I will go home, and, in nine days hence I will bring you my plans all complete.' No doubt the Executive thought me a conceited fellow, and that what I had said was nearer akin to romance than to common sense. Well, this was on

Friday, the 11th of June. From London I went to the Menai Straits, to see the third tube of the Britannia Bridge placed, and on my return to Derby I had to attend to some business at the Board Room, during which time, however, my whole mind was devoted to this project; and whilst the business proceeded I sketched the outline of my design on a large sheet of blotting-paper. Well, having sketched this design, I sat up all night, until I had worked it out to my own satisfaction; and by the aid of my friend Mr. Barlow, on the 15th, I was enabled to complete the whole of the plans by the Saturday following, on which day I left Rowsley for London. On arriving at the Derby station, I met Mr. Robert Stephenson, a member of the Building Committee, who was also on his way to the metropolis. Mr. Stephenson minutely examined the plans, and became thoroughly engrossed with them, until at length he exclaimed that the design was just the thing, and he only wished it had been submitted to the Committee in time."

At first the Building Committee received Mr. Paxton's idea coldly, and seemed inclined to adhere to their original scheme, but Mr. Paxton, nothing daunted, appealed to the public, and by the aid of illustrated articles in the *Illustrated London News*, convinced everybody but the Committee of the practicability, simplicity, and beauty of his plan, which, in fact, was but a vast expansion of a conservatory design, built by him at Chatsworth, for the flowering of the Victoria Lily. At length Paxton's scheme was unanimously adopted.

This design, as everyone knows, was that of a large building in the style of a garden conservatory, in which iron and glass should be almost the sole materials, wood being introduced only in the fittings. This method was at once adopted, and the result was a building in Hyde Park, nearly twice the breadth, and fully four times the length, of St. Paul's Cathedral. The building covered nearly twenty acres of ground, and contained eight miles of tables. It was erected and finished in the short space of seven months; and originally the intention was that the building should afterwards serve as a large green-house or horticultural garden.

With its iron framework, that rose towards the sky in dark slender lines, and its walls of glittering crystal, that seemed to float in mid-air like a vapour, it appeared, indeed, an exhalation which a breath of

wind might disperse—a *fata morgana* that would disappear with a sudden shift of sunshine. But on looking more nearly it was seen to be a solid edifice, the iron pillars of which were rooted deep in the earth; while within the combination of light and lofty arches, with ribs forming a graceful metallic net-work, gave strength and security to the edifice.

The striking similarity of this building to the conception of one of the earliest poetical dreams in the English Language has been justly pointed out by one writer. Chaucer's *House of Fame* contains the following lines, which are strangely suggestive of the gigantic building reared in Hyde Park four centuries later:—

"I dreamt I was
Within a *temple made of glass*,
In which there where more images
Of *gold* standing in sundry stages,
In more rich tabernacles,
And with *jewels*, more pinnacles,
And more curious *portraitures*,
And quaint manner of figures
Of gold-work than I ever saw.

* * * *

Then 'gan I look about and see,
That there came ent'ring in the hall,
A right good company withal,
And that of sundry regions
Of all kinds of conditions,
That dwell in earth, beneath the moon,
Poor and rich."

The Exhibition Buildings were constructed under the superintendence of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Matthew Digby Wyatt, and the work of construction itself was undertaken by Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co., of Birmingham. The length of the building coincided in a singular manner with the year of construction, being 1851 feet in length. The width in the broadest part was 456 feet, and there was a transept upwards of 400 feet long and 72 feet wide, intersecting the building at right angles in the middle.

The side walls rose in three stages: the outer wall rising from the ground twenty-four feet, the second twenty feet higher, and the third twenty feet higher still, or sixty-four feet from the bottom of its supporting pillars, giving within the building a great central avenue or

nave seventy-two feet wide, and on each side of it three avenues twenty-four feet wide, and two of forty-eight feet; the transept had a semi-circular roof, and being 108 feet high, afforded ample room for three or four trees in the Park which remained enclosed under it.

A contemporary journal gave a just view of the gigantic proportions of the building, which occupied an area somewhat longer than Portland Place. "Not the least wonderful part of the Exhibition," said the *Times*, "will be the edifice within which the specimens of the industry of all nations are to be collected. Its magnitude, the celerity with which it is to be constructed, and the materials of which it is to be composed, all combine to insure for it a large share of that attention which the Exhibition is likely to attract, and to render its progress a matter of great public interest. A building designed to cover 753,984 superficial feet, and to have an exhibiting surface of about twenty-one acres, to be roofed in, and handed over to the Commissioners within little more than three months from its commencement; to be constructed almost entirely of glass and iron, the most fragile and the strongest of working materials; to combine the lightness of a conservatory with the stability of our most permanent structures—such a building will naturally excite much curiosity as to the mode in which the works connected with it are conducted, and the advances which are made towards its completion. Enchanted palaces that grow up in the night are confined to fairy-land, and in this material world of ours the labours of the brick-layer and the carpenter are notoriously never-ending. It took three hundred years to build St. Peter's at Rome, and thirty-five to complete our own St. Paul's. The New Palace of Westminster has already been fifteen years in hand, and still is unfinished. We run up houses, it is true, quickly enough in this country; but if there be a touch of magic in the time occupied, there is none in the appearance of so much stucco and brick-work as our streets exhibit. Something very different from this was promised for the great edifice in Hyde Park. Not only was it to rise with extraordinary rapidity, but in every other respect is to be suggestive of "Arabian Nights' remembrances."

Mr. Owen Jones designed the decoration of the building, and with the assistance of five hundred painters, carried out the work successfully. The under sides of the girders were painted red, the round portions of

the columns yellow, and the hollows of the capitals blue, in due proportions. All the stalls were covered with red cloth or pink calico: by which means not only was the unsightly woodwork concealed, but a warmth of colouring was given to the whole ground area of the building, which, combined with the mass of blue overhead, and the yellow stripes of the columns, is said to have produced a most harmonious effect, which was further softened by covering the roof and south side with unbleached calico, to prevent the glare of light which would necessarily take place in a building whose roof and sides were chiefly of glass. Mr. Jones also displayed great knowledge in his profession by a judicious disposal of the large and small objects which were arranged for exhibition.

The work of building may be said to have been commenced on the 26th September, 1850, when the first column of the edifice was fixed. The work proceeded so rapidly that by the middle of the following January, little of the exterior of the vast structure remained to be finished, and by the 1st of May everything was complete. The contributions from all nations were in their places, and the Exhibition was opened by Her Majesty the Queen in person, attended by the Prince Consort, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the ministers and great officers of state, the foreign ambassadors and ministers, the Royal Commissioners and many other distinguished persons. The Queen occupied a chair of state placed on the north of the centre facing the the south transept. The national anthem was sung by a choir of nearly a thousand voices accompanied by the organ. After the opening ceremony and prayer, the "Hallelujah Chorus" was rendered by the choir, and then the royal party passed round the exhibition galleries.

The Great Exhibition proved a very pronounced success, and after all expenses were defrayed, a balance of over two hundred thousand pounds remained to be applied to the promotion of industrial art. Moreover, the Exhibition was successful in other ways. It entirely accorded with the public taste, and met a public want. The people had such a good opinion, too, of the building itself that, when the Exhibition was over, a general desire for its preservation sprang up. Application was made to Government that it should be purchased and become the property of the nation. That application was unsuccessful, however, but a few gentlemen rescued it from destruction.

It was decided that the building should be removed to some convenient place within an easy distance of London, and accordingly it was transferred to Sydenham, where an estate of three hundred acres had been purchased, on which the edifice was raised again in increased grandeur and beauty, and where, under the name of the Crystal Palace, it soon became one of the most popular places of recreation in or near the metropolis.

THE EGYPTIAN HALL.

Mr. William Bullock appears to have commenced his exhibition of natural history and other objects as early as 1808, whilst carrying on the business of a jeweller and goldsmith at Liverpool. His museum contained also works of art, armoury, and many of the specimens and curiosities brought from the South Seas by Captain Cook. By the year 1810, Mr. Bullock had removed his collections to London. In that year he issued "A Companion to Mr. Bullock's Museum . . . of Natural and Foreign Curiosities, Antiquities, and the Production of the Fine Arts, collected principally at Liverpool, during several years of arduous Research, and at an Expense of upwards of Twenty-two Thousand Pounds, and now open for public inspection in the Great Room, No. 22, Piccadilly." This title-page, it may be added, was taken from the eighth edition, so it is probable Bullock was in London either in the year 1809, or early in the following year.

The Egyptian Hall, one of the most striking buildings in Piccadilly, was erected in the year 1812, from the designs of Mr. G. F. Robinson, at a cost of sixteen thousand pounds. The edifice was so named from its being in the Egyptian style of architecture and ornament, the inclined pilasters and sides being covered with hieroglyphics.

The original purpose of the Egyptian Hall appears to have been the provision of a convenient building for a natural history museum, and Mr. Bullock's immense collection of specimens, gathered during his extended travels in Central America and other climes, and strengthened by the addition of the collections of the Lichfield Museum, and that of Sir Ashton Lever, was deposited herein shortly after its erection, and formed one of the most popular exhibitions of the metropolis.

By the year 1816, the collection contained upwards of fifteen thousand

"natural and foreign curiosities, antiquities, and productions of the fine arts." The exhibition itself was called at this time, and from its commencement in Piccadilly, "The London Museum," and the building was called "The Egyptian Temple." Mr. Bullock appears to have been still adding to his collection, for in the "Companion," published in 1816, it is announced, "The full value given for rare and uncommon Quadrupeds, Birds, Fishes, Reptiles, Shells, Old Paintings, Carvings on Wood or Ivory, Stained Glass, ancient and foreign Arms and Armour, or any uncommon production of Art or Nature."

The price of admission to the exhibition was one shilling; an annual, non-transferable ticket was a guinea; and anyone could become a subscriber for life by the payment of ten guineas.

At an early stage in its history the Egyptian Hall was used for performances illustrating skill, music, &c. In 1812, among other popular entertainments, and in addition apparently to Mr. Bullock's museum, were Michel Boai's Chin Performance; Prague Minstrels, and Bohemian Band; and an exhibition of J. M. W. Turner's collection of Drawings and Views in England and Wales.

In 1816 a little pamphlet was issued entitled:—A description of the . . . Carriage of the late Emperor of France taken on the evening of the Battle of Waterloo . . . and now exhibiting at the London Museum, Piccadilly."

In the year 1819, however, Mr. Bullock's London Museum was disposed of by public auction.

From the "Companion" for 1816, already quoted, it appears that Mr. Bullock made arrangements for "an *Establishment* of real importance to science, and of eminent advantage to individuals. For this purpose he has completed a magnificent suite of Apartments, one hundred and twenty feet long, on the ground floor of the Egyptian Hall, in Piccadilly, designed for the reception, exhibition, and sale, by commission, of every article connected with the Fine Arts, Antiquity, and Natural History: thereby to facilitate the wishes of those who are forming collections, as well as the views of those who seek remuneration for interesting objects which they have procured, or ingenious works which they have executed. Among the various departments that will be formed, the Picture Gallery, just erected for the purpose, will command

particular attention. This Apartment, from its connection with the Museum, which is visited by most strangers in the Metropolis, must possess considerable advantage over any other establishment of a similar nature. Valuable curiosities of every description (subject to the approbation of the Proprietor) are allowed to remain on sale for one season, without expense, unless actually sold, when 10 per Cent. will be charged on the amount."

In the year 1820 two important pictures were exhibited in the Egyptian Hall. One, by Mons. Jerricault, represented the surviving crew (15 men out of 150) of the "Medusa" French Frigate; it was exhibited in the Roman Gallery. The other was by Mr. Haydon, and represented Christ's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem. In 1822 John Martin's paintings, including that of Pompeii and Herculaneum, were exhibited, and in the next year, 1823, Mr. Haydon's great picture of the Raising of Lazarus was exhibited at the Egyptian Hall.

Mr. Bullock paid a visit to Mexico in 1822 for the purpose of collecting curiosities, antiquities, and objects of natural history. He was well received by the authorities, aided in his researches, and received from the Mexican Government a gift of the silver mine of Del Bada near Themascaltpec. From this tour Mr. Bullock brought home many valuable curiosities, among others casts of the great calendar, commonly known as Montezuma's watch, and of the sacrificial stone, models of the pyramids of San Juan de Teokbuacan, manuscripts and hieroglyphic pictures sent to Montezuma to inform him of the transactions of the Spaniards, and the original map of the ancient city, made by order of the Emperor for Cortez, and intended to have been transmitted to the King of Spain.

On his return to England he opened in the Egyptian Hall an exhibition called Modern Mexico, containing, besides the above-mentioned curiosities, models of the scenery, specimens of the industry and art, the minerals and natural history of the country.

After being exhibited during 1824, and probably a part of 1825, these collections were sold by public auction on the 30th of September, 1825, for about £290.

Among the objects of interest exhibited in the Egyptian Hall during the year 1826 were an altar-piece from the Capuchin Convent

at Cadiz, painted by Murillo, and the Rath, or Burmese imperial state carriage and throne, studded with twenty thousand precious stones. This carriage was sold by auction on the 18th December, 1826.

In 1828 there was exhibited an interesting series of pictures representing some of the most important battles fought by the French armies in Egypt, Italy, Germany, and Spain, between 1792 and 1812. The pictures were painted by General Baron Le Jeune.

The Napoleon Museum was one of the attractions of the Egyptian Hall in 1843. It comprised papers and manuscripts, marbles, bronzes, carvings, gems, decorations, medallions, drawings, miniatures, portraits, pictures, prints, vignettes, coins, medals, books, &c., relating to, and illustrative of, the life and actions of Napoleon I. This collection was sold by public auction on the 23rd of June, 1845, and following days.

Banvard's Panorama of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, extensively known as the "Three-mile Painting," exhibiting a view of country over three thousand miles in length, was exhibited at the Egyptian Hall in 1848. In the following year, 1849, there was exhibited a panoramic picture of the Nile, painted by Henry Warren, and James Fahey, from drawings by Joseph Bonomi.

Mr. Albert Smith's celebrated Ascent of Mont Blanc was first represented at the Egyptian Hall on the 15th of March, 1852, and in 1854 the grand Diorama of Constantinople was being exhibited. In 1859, Mr. Albert Smith gave his popular lectures entitled, "To China and Back."

The following are some of the many various popular entertainments provided at the Egyptian Hall:—

1861. Victoria Cross Gallery. Third season.
1864. General Tom Thumb, and his wife.
1865. Stodare's Magic Theatre of Mystery.
1865. Chang, the tall man of Fychow.
1868. The Siamese Twins, Chang and Eng.
1868, &c. Maccabe's Songs, Music, and Mimicry.

Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's successful attempts to produce a refined and clever magical and conjuring entertainment at the Egyptian Hall have met with much popular support for twenty years past, and have fairly entitled him to name the Hall "England's Home of Mystery."

Some years ago the tricks of the so-called spiritualists were cleverly exposed by Mr. Maskelyne, and the same gentleman is now, by mechanical jugglery, outdoing the Mahatmas by disintegrating and invisibly precipitating a human being through space.

THE PANTHERION.

In 1819, there was adjoining Bullock's Museum, the Pantherion, a separate exhibition intended to display quadrupeds in such a manner as to convey a correct notion of their haunts and habits. In one orange tree were disposed sixty species of the monkey-tribe; and besides specimens of animal life, many exotic trees were exhibited by Mr. Bullock.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.

This well-known and widely appreciated public building was erected in 1857, from the designs of Mr. Owen Jones, in the Arabesque or Moorish Alhambra style. The principal hall is beautifully decorated, and provided on three sides with a gallery; the western end is apsidally constructed, and is so arranged that concerts may be given on an extensive scale, a class of entertainment for which the hall was originally intended. The building consists of one large room and two smaller ones. The first public dinner held here was on the 2nd of June, 1858, under the presidency of Mr. Robert Stephenson, M.P., when a testimonial of the value of more than £2,500 was presented to Sir F. P. Smith, in recognition of services in the introduction of the screw-propeller into our steam fleet. Here Charles Dickens gave the second series of his readings, in the spring of 1861.

In one of the smaller apartments, entertainments, such as panoramas, are given. For many years past St. James's Hall has been rendered famous by the popular entertainments which are daily given therein by the Moore and Burgess Minstrels.

In 1875, handsome and spacious dining-rooms were added to the building. Adjoining each room is a small kitchen, communicating by means of a lift, with the general kitchen upstairs. The general fittings and furniture are handsome throughout, and in good keeping, marble and glazed tiling being largely employed in the panelling of the walls.

CHAPTER XII.

CHARITIES AND HOSPITALS.

Charities, chronogically arranged.—St. George's Hospital.—The Royal Orthopædic Hospital.

SOME of the Charities of St. George's, Hanover Square, are of great antiquity. The first to be mentioned is one which provides for the repair of certain roads, and this parish is, with others, interested in it.

Lyon's Estate Charity.

The Vestry are interested, so far as the portion of the roadway of Oxford Street in this parish is concerned, in the rents and profits of certain lands at Kilburn and St. Marylebone, which were left about the year 1592, by John Lyon, the founder of Harrow School, towards the repair of the road from Edgware to London, and the road from Harrow to London. These rents and profits are paid annually to the Edgware Highway Board, by the Keeper and Governor of Harrow School, and by that board distributed amongst the various local authorities having jurisdiction over the roads.

Pest House Charity.

This parish, together with the parishes of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, St. Clement Danes, St. James, Westminster, and St. Paul, Covent Garden, is interested in this charity, which was founded in the year 1687. The charity in 1868 consisted of property at Craven Hill Gardens, Craven Hill Mews, and Craven Mews, let at rents realising £183 14s. per annum; and £15,537 cash, being the purchase-money due for premises belonging to the charity, taken for the purpose of the Metropolitan Railway Company; and £395 7s. 8d. three-per-cent Bank Annuities, remaining on the credit of "Attorney General *v.* Earl Craven."

The charity was originally demised by the Earl Craven, for the benefit of poor persons suffering from the plague.

A scheme for the management and regulation of the charity, and for the application of the income thereof, was approved by the orders of the Court of Chancery on the 30th of May, 1864, and the 19th of February, 1868. Under this scheme the incumbents of each of the parishes interested are, by virtue of their office, always to be trustees.

In addition, trustees have been appointed by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, upon the nomination of the several vestries.

After providing for any costs or expenses which may from time to time be directed by any court or authority of competent jurisdiction to be paid out of the funds of the charity, and paying the current expenses of the management and administration of the trust, the trustees pay three fifth parts (not exceeding £600) of the net annual income to the treasurers of King's College Hospital, Portugal Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and the remaining two fifth parts (not exceeding £400) to the treasurers of Charing Cross Hospital, Strand.

Orders for admission in these hospitals are granted to parishioners of the several parishes interested in the charity by an Order Committee, consisting of five trustees, one member of the committee being elected from each parish interested.

General Steuart's Charity.

By his will, dated 21st of May, 1726, General Steuart left the sum of five thousand pounds, Irish currency, in the hands of trustees, for the benefit of the parish of St. George, Hanover Square. The sale of this stock realized the sum of £4,484 16s. 1d., and land was purchased in South Street, and an Endowment School erected thereon. This school is now carried on by a board of managers, in conjunction with the Subscription School of the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, in South Street, under an arrangement sanctioned by the Court of Chancery. The funds of the charity, which consist of £4,800 Consols, and the School House and premises in South Street, let for £105 per annum, are entirely under the control of the trustees of the charity.

There are twenty-four boys in the school, who are clothed and taught the common rudiments of education, with the prospect of a reward of ten pounds towards an apprenticeship. The trustees meet twice in the year to select children to fill up vacancies, and to conduct the general business of the charity.

Tomlinson's Charity.

Mr. Matthew Tomlinson, by his will, dated 28th of September, 1735, gave a freehold house in Stafford Street—"The Goat" public house—and the rent accruing therefrom, and directed that his executors should annually clothe four poor men and four poor women of this parish, and likewise three poor men and three poor women of the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields; and further, that one of the overseers of the poor of each parish should have access to the accounts of the trustees. It was directed that the poor persons should be clothed on the day of the month on which the testator died.

It is satisfactory to know that at the present time the funds of this charity are much larger than at the time of the bequest, and that the number of poor persons annually clothed is largely in excess of the number specified in the testator's will. The charity is in the hands of five trustees. The house realizes £140 per annum, and the sum of £81 10s. 3d. is invested in Consols.

Bequests to the Poor of the Parish by Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Teage, and H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester.

I. In the year 1771, Mrs. Mary Williams left the sum of fifty pounds, the interest of which was directed to be used for the benefit of poor persons in the parish, not receiving parish relief.

II. The sum of one hundred pounds was left by will by Mrs. Teage, in the year 1774, to the Minister and Churchwardens of the parish for the time being to be placed at interest upon real security, or in the public funds, or in the purchase of lands or hereditaments, the interest or produce to be from time to time applied by the Minister and Churchwardens, and their successors, in the purchase of bread and coals, to be distributed by them to the poor of the parish on every St. Thomas's Day, for ever.

£160 Consols have been purchased with these two charities, and the interest thereon now amounts to £4 8s. per annum.

H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester, by her will, dated 29th of January, 1857, left a sum of money for the benefit of poor persons, in this parish, and a like sum for the benefit of the poor residing in the vicinity of Grosvenor Chapel.

III. The interest on £253 17s. 7d. Consols, now produces £6 19s. 8d. per annum.

IV. The interest on £253 17s. 7d. Consols, now produces £6 19s. 8d. per annum.

With regard to the distribution of Nos. *I.*, *II.*, and *III.*, the board of Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, on the 13th of July, 1880, ordered that "the net income of the said Charities shall be applied by the said Trustees in providing coal for the poor of the said Parish. The recipients of such coal shall be those persons who shall be subscribers to the Coal Club in the said Parish."

With regard to No. *IV.*, the board, on the 28th of October, 1873, made an order, appointing the Rector and Churchwardens, and their respective successors, trustees, during the tenure of their several offices, to administer the charity, and directed that the dividends accruing should be applied for the benefit of the poor people residing in the parish, with preference to those who reside in the vicinity of Grosvenor Chapel; and that in case any ecclesiastical district shall be hereafter assigned to the said chapel, the income of the charity is to be applied for the benefit of the resident poor of such district.

William Terwin's Charity.

Mr. William Terwin, by his will, dated 2nd December, 1824, left the sum of £350 Consols to the Rector and Churchwardens, the interest of which was to purchase bread, to be distributed annually, in January, in that part of the Out-Ward of the parish called Neat House.

The sum is invested in Consols, and realizes £9 12s. 6d. per annum, which is distributed by the Rector and Churchwardens.

Samaritan Fund.

Lady Williams, in the year 1862, left the sum of fifty pounds to the poor of this parish. Upon the sum being handed to the Clerk of the Governors and Directors of the Poor, it was resolved "that a book be provided, called the Samaritan Fund Book, in which the amount should be entered; that the money be kept in the Clerk's hands, and disposed of, from time to time, by this board, the sums

given being signed by the presiding Chairman of the day." Subsequently the board further resolved "that a box be placed at the house in Mount Street, with the following inscription:—'Samaritan Fund of St. George, Hanover Square, for the relief, by gift, of such Poor Persons as the Poor Board cannot, by law, assist with Money, and that the Governors and Directors of the Poor, for the time being, constitute a committee for the distribution of the Samaritan Fund.'"

Prior to the formation of the Board of Guardians of St. George's Parish, the Governors and Directors of the Poor, on the 7th of August, 1867, handed the fund over to trustees then appointed, for the benefit of the poor of this parish. The box is retained at the Mount Street Offices, and the funds arising therefrom are now distributed by the trustees, upon the recommendations of the Board of Guardians of St. George's Union.

Mrs. Nasmyth's Charity.

Mrs. Nasmyth, by her will, dated 15th May, 1869, bequeathed the residue of her estate to the rector and churchwardens for the time being, to be invested by them in their names in Consolidated Three per Cent. Bank Annuities, or in government or real securities in trust to pay and distribute the dividends and interest arising therefrom, half-yearly as they shall become due and payable, in relief or gifts to the deserving poor, born or residing in the said parish, who shall not at any time have received, or be then in the receipt of parish relief. It was directed that every unmarried person selected should be paid the sum of one pound half-yearly, and every married person selected the sum of two pounds half-yearly.

It being Mrs. Nasmyth's wish that as many shall participate in the bequest as the annual produce thereof will admit of when distributed at the said rates, and further, that the selection of persons, from among the deserving poor, shall at all times be under the entire control of the rector and churchwardens for the time, but so, nevertheless, that they shall select as recipients in the proportion of two married persons, widows, or widowers, to one unmarried person.

The residue of the estate, £3,935 19s. 3d., is invested in Consols, the interest on which now amounts to £108 4s. 8d. per annum.

Trinity Chapel Site.

This charity consists of the income derived from three houses in Conduit Street, which are let at a total rent of £1,600 per annum, and of a present capital sum of £4,449 14s. 10d. Consolidated Bank Annuities. The share of St. George's parish is four fifth parts of the net amount of annual rents, after payment of ground rents, &c. Of this sum one hundred pounds per annum is applied towards the maintenance of the fabric of the church of St. George, Hanover Square; two hundred pounds per annum is devoted to the maintenance of divine worship in Hanover Church, Regent Street; and the sum of fifty pounds per annum is given to the nine district churches in the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, viz.:—Christ Church, Mayfair; Hanover Church, Regent Street; St. Barnabas, Pimlico; St. Gabriel's, Pimlico; St. Mark's, North Audley Street; St. Michael's, Chester Square; St. Paul's, Knightsbridge; St. Peter's, Eaton Square; and St. Saviour's, St. George's Square. The residue is paid to the rector of St. George's Church, Hanover Square.

Baroness de Sternberg's Charity.

In the year 1859, the Baroness de Sternberg died, and by will directed that she should be buried in the common Burial Ground of the parish where she died, and that the sum of one hundred pounds sterling be placed in the hands of the Minister and Churchwardens of the parish where she should be buried, to be by them distributed amongst the poor of the same parish at their discretion, on the day of the funeral, or as soon after as conveniently may be.

The Baroness died in the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, and was buried in the burial ground belonging to the parish, which is situated in the parish of Hanwell. This legacy first became known to the Rector and Churchwardens in the year 1880: they then found that the £100 was in the hands of the Court of Chancery, and had lain invested in the Three-per-cent. Consols at compound interest since August, 1860, and amounted to a capital sum of £241 7s. 4d.

The Hanwell authorities claimed the fund, contending that the testatrix's intention applied more particularly to the parish in which her body had been interred.

In the result (after the Rector and Churchwardens had taken counsel's

opinion on the point), in order to avoid the fund being wholly, or in greater part, spent in litigation, it was agreed between the parties that it should be equally divided, each party paying their own expenses. The Court of Chancery sanctioned this agreement, and a net sum of £103 2s. 5d. was received by the Rectors and Churchwardens as this parish's share of the fund.

As it was impossible now to carry out the wishes of the testatrix in the disposal of the Fund, the Charity Commissioners were applied to for their sanction to the sum being invested in the name of "The Official Trustee of Charitable Funds," and the interest being applied in aid of the sick and poor fund of the parish. This proposal received the sanction of the Commissioners, and the annual produce—£3 3s. 4d.—is applied as above stated.

Camden Town Almshouses and other Charities.

There are forty-two Almswomen of this Charity. Poor women, being spinsters or widows, of good character, who shall have resided in the parish for not less than five years next preceding the time of their appointment, who shall not during that period have received poor relief, and who from age, ill-health, accident, or infirmity, shall be unable to maintain themselves by their own exertions, shall be eligible for appointment as Almswomen, with a preference for those applicants who, being otherwise qualified as aforesaid, shall have become reduced by misfortune from better circumstances.

In the case of four of the Almswomen, to be called Mrs. Grahme's Almswomen, preference shall be given to such applicants, being in other respects duly qualified, as are widows, or maiden, or widowed daughters of clergymen of the Church of England.

Sums ranging from nine to twelve shillings per week are paid to these Almswomen, and the residue of the net annual income is applied to the payment of annual pensions or annuities to pensioners appointed from time to time by the trustees.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL, HYDE PARK CORNER.

Lanesborough House first opened its doors as St. George's Hospital on the first of January, 1734. Its institution was owing to dissensions which arose among the subscribers to the Westminster Hospital.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

The Westminster charity for the relief of "poor sick and disabled persons," was originally established in Petty France, Westminster, in 1719, by several individuals who had previously made common cause for the relief of sick prisoners in Newgate, the Clink, and other prisons of the metropolis. It was the first hospital for the sick supported by voluntary contributions; and met with such support that its subscribers, in 1724, found it necessary to remove to a larger house in Chapel Street. The funds, and application for admittance, continuing yearly to increase, and the house in Chapel having been reported to be in a ruinous condition, it was deemed expedient to procure larger and more suitable premises. Two houses for this purpose having been offered to the managers—one in Castle Lane, Pimlico, the other Lanesborough House, near Hyde Park Corner—opinions were much divided as to the greater eligibility of these two localities and premises. The discussion was carried on with much heat, till the question was eventually settled by a resolution, passed at a general board of the subscribers, "That the house in Castle Lane should be purchased for the infirmary." Upon this decision, many of the subscribers, who had been originally and principally concerned in carrying on the undertaking, with all the physicians, determined to take a lease of Lanesborough House, which, in their opinion, on account of the strength of the building, and the airiness of the situation, was much more convenient to answer the ends of the charity.

This was accordingly effected; and on the 19th of October, 1733, a general meeting of the gentlemen who were favourably disposed to the new institution was held in Golden Square, at the house of one of the subscribers, when committees were appointed to fit up Lanesborough House for the reception of patients with all convenient speed, and to draw up bye-laws for the management of the new hospital upon the model of St. Thomas's Hospital. At this meeting six physicians with three surgeons—all of whom having declared their willingness to serve without fee or reward—were elected medical officers.

At one of these meetings probably, Richard Willis, then Bishop of Winchester, was elected president; but he did not survive the first year of office. After his death the Governors solicited the patronage of Frederick, Prince of Wales, and requested his acceptance of the office

of president. His Royal Highness was pleased to accede to their request; and the office of president has ever since been held by one of the royal family, and, with the exception of one short period, by the reigning monarch.

Preparations were immediately made to adapt Lanesborough House for the reception of patients; and whilst these were in progress, committees of the subscribers were held at various coffee-houses, and were occupied in drawing up regulations for the different departments, in making contracts for stores and provisions, in receiving subscriptions, electing governors, and also in a vain endeavour to get the managers of the Westminster Infirmary to hand over to the trustees of the St. George's Hospital a portion of the funds in the treasury at the time of the separation.

The new institution, however, met with great public support; subscriptions and donations rapidly poured in; and amongst its early supporters we find the names of Dr. Richard Mead and Sir Hans Sloane, the more eminent medical men of that day, whose example and influence must have most materially tended to promote the success of the hospital.

By the end of 1733 the arrangements at Lanesborough House were in such a forward state that the Governors determined to admit patients, and on the first of January in the following year the hospital was open, and the first patients were received in the wards.

From this time boards were held weekly at Lanesborough House for admission of patients, and the transaction of the ordinary business of the hospital; while committees for special matters were held, as before, at coffee-houses, for the greater convenience of the members, as Hyde Park Corner was in those days considered to be "out of town," and indeed, was considered the boundary of town and country till the removal of the turnpike in October, 1825.

The hospital at first was only furnished with thirty beds; but very soon the number was increased to sixty. This number was, however, soon found inadequate to meet the demands for admission; and the funds of the charity rapidly increasing, it was resolved, in the beginning of 1735, to enlarge the house, and to procure, if possible, some additions to the premises.

A committee was accordingly appointed to enquire into the tenure

of Lanesborough House, and to report on the means of enlarging the accommodation for patients. By April 11th, 1735, the committee were able to report that the annual income arising from subscriptions was sufficient to relieve one hundred in-patients more than the present house could contain; and that the balance of the audit of the preceding year would be sufficient to defray the charge of erecting an additional building for that purpose. For the furtherance of this object the committee recommended the purchase of the freehold of Lanesborough House, and two adjoining houses, held under the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and also two acres of an adjoining field belonging to Sir Robert Grosvenor, Bart.

As soon as possible the work of enlarging the building was taken in hand, and proceeded with with such activity that in the space of a few months the hospital, much improved in its arrangements and furnished with two hundred beds, was ready for the reception of patients. In 1825, the necessity for increased and improved accommodation compelled the Governors to entirely rebuild the Hospital. By April, 1834, the new erection was finished, with accommodation for 325 in-patients, a theatre for lectures, and a museum for the pathological preparations. In June, 1834, an Act of Incorporation was obtained, confirming all the existing rights of the Hospital, and empowering the trustees to hold property to the amount of £20,000 per annum, without incurring the penalties or forfeitures of the statute of mortmain.

The south wing of the building was extended at its western end in 1851, supplying room for twenty-five additional beds. In 1859 the north and south wings were raised a story, furnishing sleeping-rooms for the nurses, and two wards for the convalescents.

In the year 1858, Mr. Atkinson Morley (proprietor of the Burlington Hotel in Cork Street) bequeathed to St. George's Hospital the savings of many years, for the purpose of erecting and endowing a hospital for the convalescent patients in St. George's Hospital. This legacy, amounting to about £150,000, was received by the trustees of the Hospital in 1865, and in 1869 the Atkinson Morley Convalescent Hospital at Wimbledon was opened.

The total receipts, including subscriptions, donations, cash legacies, etc., of the Hospital up to the year 1890 amounted to considerably

more than a million and a half pounds, and during the year 1890 4,466 in-patients, and 29,148 out-patients, received medical attention at this splendid establishment.

THE ROYAL ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL.

The establishment of this hospital was proposed in the year 1838, and, owing to the liberal manner in which the proposition was supported, the committee were enabled to open the hospital in July, 1840, at No. 6, Bloomsbury Square. Before the termination of the lease of that house, however, it was found necessary to procure larger premises, and in March, 1856, the hospital was removed to the freehold house and premises, No. 315, Oxford Street, and 15, Hanover Square. Owing to the re-numbering of Oxford Street, the hospital is now No. 297.

The special work of this excellent institution is the treatment of cases of club-foot, spinal, and other deformities, and the immense amount of valuable assistance so given may be estimated, in some degree, from the fact, that during the first fifty years of its existence, considerably over seventy-three thousand cases were undertaken and treated by the hospital.

By the exertions of the medical officers of the charity, the new method of treatment has been extended to the cure of contractions and distortions of every part of the human frame, and in particular of that most distressing deformity, lateral curvature of the spine; in the speedy relief and ultimate removal of which, its application is attended with the most complete success. The efficacy of the treatment in these cases, by means of a simply contrived and easily adjusted instrument, unattended by irksome restraint or interruption to the ordinary duties of every-day life, is fully attested by several instances now in the hospital.

Numerous medical practitioners and students from every part of the kingdom have availed themselves of the opportunities of acquiring the information afforded by this hospital, where lectures are regularly given, and where a room is appropriated for the reception of casts and models. One of the primary objects of its founders—the formation of a school for the study of the cure of distortions—has thus been

realized. In addition, therefore, to the direct advantages accruing to the humbler portion of the community, through the liberality of the more wealthy classes, the encouragement of the advancement and extension of this branch of medical science proves of great utility to society at large.

Her Majesty the Queen is a patroness, and the Prince of Wales a patron of this Hospital.

CHAPTER XIII.

Area, division, and population of the Parish.—The Grosvenor Estate.—The Grosvenor Family.—Streets, etc., named after the Grosvenor Family.—The Duke of Westminster.—The building of Belgravia and Pimlico.—Mr. Thomas Cubitt.—New Churches.—Victoria Railway Station.—The Grosvenor Hotel.—Western Pumping Station.

THE PARISH OF ST. GEORGE, Hanover Square, contains an area of 1,122 acres, and the portions of it in Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park, Buckingham Palace and Gardens, together with the Burial Ground in the Uxbridge Road (comprised in the above figures), contain about 350 acres. The length of the public way is about 41½ miles, and the rateable value in June, 1891, was £1,836,159.

It has been divided into seven wards, viz., Dover Ward, Conduit Ward, Grosvenor Ward, Brook Ward, Curzon Ward, Knightsbridge Ward, and Out Ward. Eleven ecclesiastical districts have been formed out of the original or mother parish of St. George, Hanover Square, viz., St. George, Hanover Square; Christ Church, Mayfair; Hanover Church, Regent Street; St. Mark's, North Audley Street; Holy Trinity (part of); St. Barnabas; St. Gabriel's; St. Michael's, Chester Square; St. Paul's, Knightsbridge; St. Peter's, Eaton Square; St. Saviour's, St. George's Square.

The population of the parish in 1871 was 89,758, and in 1881 was 89,573. In 1891, however, the enumerated population was only 78,362, shewing an apparent decrease of 11,211 (or one-eighth of the population) since 1881. But this apparent decrease is regarded by the medical officer of health as being of no value for statistical purposes. The census was taken of persons sleeping in the parish on the night of Sunday, April 5th, a day which had two serious disadvantages, the first being that it was on a Sunday, a day

on which many of the inhabitants of this parish are out of town, and the second that it was the Sunday after Easter, and therefore large numbers of people had not returned to town from their Easter holidays.

THE GROSVENOR ESTATE.

The house of Grosvenor, although its connection with the British peerage is scarcely a century old, can lay claim to as noble a descent as any of our Norman houses. In fact the Grosvenors have been of knightly dignity ever since the Conquest. The Grosvenors are supposed to have come over with William the Conqueror, and it has been suggested that their name is derived from an ancestor holding the office of Grand Huntsman to the Dukes of Normandy, or it may have been that one of the race obtained the name simply on account of his love for the chase. The Grosvenors appear to be descended from a nephew of the great Norman Earl of Chester.

Mr. Walford in writing about the Grosvenor family gives the following interesting particulars:—"Its head was the individual who, towards the close of the fourteenth century, carried on, for five long years, the memorable controversy of Scrope *versus* Grosvenor, before the High Court of Chivalry, the judges being the Lord High Constable, Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, youngest son of Edward III., and the Earl Marshall, Thomas de Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham. Kings, warriors, mitred abbots, bishops, statesmen, and poets appear on the scene. Four hundred witnesses, not one of lesser degree than a gentleman having a knowledge of arms, were called on to give evidence—among them John of Gaunt, Owen Glendower, Hotspur, and Geoffrey Chaucer. The question before the Court was such as may well raise a smile now-a-days, when everybody is, forsooth, a gentleman, and when everybody who likes to pay the tax can assume what armorial bearings he pleases, without fear of punishment; it was simply the right to bear a particular plain coat of arms, heraldically described as *Azure, a bend or.* The plaintiff was Sir Richard de Scrope, of Bolton, the friend and comrade of the Black Prince; the defendant was Sir Robert Grosvenor, a Cheshire knight. We will not attempt to give an outline of the pleadings: suffice it to say, that the decision of the Court was in favour of Scrope, the same arms, *within*

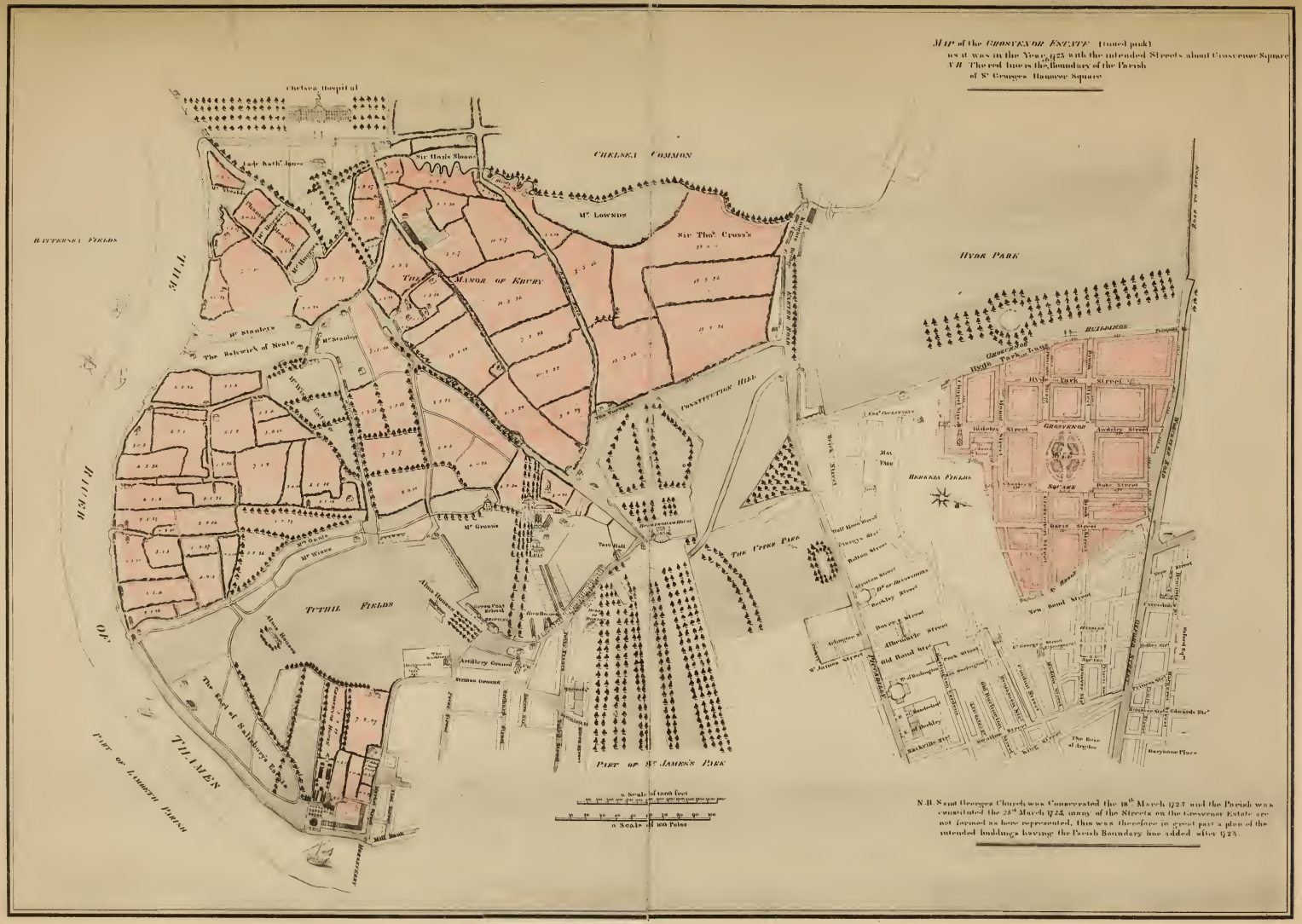
a plain bordure argent, being allowed to Grosvenor—the present arms of the family."

The Grosvenors were raised to a baronetcy in 1621. Mines in the North of England were the main source from whence the wealth of this family, up to that time, was drawn, but in the year 1676 Sir Thomas Grosvenor married Miss Mary Davies, the only child of Alexander Davies, of Ebury Manor. It is said that this Davies derived his wealth mainly from the property and title deeds left in his charge during the great Plague of 1665, and which were never reclaimed by their owners, and that Davies was thus enabled to make large purchases of land in the west of London. Although the value of the Ebury Estate was great at the time the Grosvenor family acquired it, yet it was as nothing to that which it afterwards bore when its fields were covered with residential buildings.

The income derived from the ground-rents of Belgravia, Pimlico, and the other portions of the estate must be a perfect gold-mine of wealth to the present Duke of Westminster, whose income has been estimated at about one thousand pounds a day, or between three and four hundred thousand pounds per annum.

A plan of the Grosvenor Estate in 1723 is reproduced in this volume, from an original manuscript plan in the Crace Collection. The fields and other portions belonging to that estate are coloured pink, to distinguish them from adjoining property. It will be observed that the sizes of the various fields are represented by small figures representing acres, &c., and, although the field names are unfortunately not given, a good many other details will be found in the plan which are of great value from a topographical point of view. "King's Road," "The Footway to Chelsea," "The Coachway to Chelsea," and "Willow Walk," are represented as lanes leading between the fields, and enclosed by green hedge-rows and trees.

It has been remarked that a brief epitome of the agrarian history of the house of the Grosvenors is written in the names of the London streets and squares which they own. Grosvenor Square and Grosvenor Place bear their patronymic; Eaton Square and Eaton Place are called after their chief seat; Eccleston, Chester, and Belgrave Squares are named after different portions of their Cheshire estates; Davies Street


Map of the GROSVENOR ESTATE (tinted pink)
as it was in the Year 1723 with the intended Streets about Grosvenor Square
N.B. The red line is the Boundary of the Parish
of St. Georges Hanover Square
Chelsea Hospital
CHELSEA COMMON
Lady Kath. Jones
Sir Hans Sloane
Mr. Lownds
Sir Tho.s Cross's
BATTERSEA FIELDS
MILL
The Manor of Ebury
HYDE PARK
Mr. Stanley
The Rehearsal of Neate
Mr. Stanley
CONSTITUTION HILL
Mr. Green
Mr. Green
Mr. Green
Yard Wall
THE UPPER PARK
TUTHIL FIELDS
Alms Houses
Alms Houses
Alms Houses
Green Coat School
Alms Houses
Artillery Ground
Rising Ground
The Earl of Salisbury's Estate
PART OF LAMBETH PARISH
PART OF ST. JAMES'S PARK
a Scale of 1000 feet
a Scale of 100 Poles
HEATHROW
Grosvenor Row
Hyde Park Street
Hyde Park Street
Brook Street
GROSVENOR
Brook Street
Audley Street
SQUARE
Duke Street
Davis Street
Mount Street
Mount Street
Mount

and Ebury Street commemorate Mary Davies, of Ebury, who brought the London property into the family by her marriage; Wilton Crescent tells of the acquisition of the Grey de Wilton title and lands by a Grosvenor; Motcombe Street derives its name from the mansion of the Dowager Marchioness in Dorsetshire; and Halkin Street is named after a property in Flintshire.

Hugh Lupus Grosvenor, the present head of the house of Grosvenor, was born in 1825. He succeeded to the title of 3rd Marquis of Westminster in 1869, and was created Duke of Westminster in 1874.

The building of Belgravia and Pimlico may be justly attributed to the exertions of Thomas Cubitt, the celebrated builder. In 1825, after previous successful schemes in the direction of speculative building, he leased the Five Fields at Pimlico, upon which he erected Belgrave Square, Lowndes Square, Chesham Place, and other ranges of houses. He subsequently embarked upon even larger undertakings, covering with houses and mansions the vast open districts lying between Eaton Square and the River Thames. Thomas Cubitt was born in 1788, and died in 1855, having founded the eminent firm of builders.

In order to provide accommodation for the enormous population which has sprung up, several large and beautiful churches have been built during the last fifty years. St. Michael's Church in Chester Square, a building constructed in the decorated style of Gothic architecture, from the designs of Mr. Thomas Cundy, was consecrated in 1844; the chancel was extended during the years 1874-5. St. Barnabas' Church, near Ebury Square, is a handsome Gothic church built in the severest Early English style. It was built in 1848-50, from designs by Mr. Cundy, as a chapel of ease to St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge. The church is a portion of a college founded on St. Barnabas' Day, 1846, and stands upon ground presented by the first Marquis of Westminster. It has a Caen-stone tower and spire 170 feet high, with a peal of ten bells; and the internal fittings and ornaments are very rich and elaborate. This church gained considerable notoriety during the earlier part of the ritualistic movement, and the services were not allowed to be carried on without sundry outbursts of popular indignation.

In Warwick Square stands St. Gabriel's Church, a large building

in the Decorated style, erected from the designs of Mr. Thomas Cundy, and consecrated in 1853. The church of St. James the Less, in Upper Garden Street, Pimlico, was built in 1861 from the designs of Mr. G. E. Street, R.A. The church was founded by the daughters of the late Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol (Dr. Moule) as a memorial of their father, who was also a Canon of Westminster. It is constructed of brick, with dressings of stone, marble and alabaster. It consists of a nave, side aisles, semi-circular apse, and a lofty tower and spire. The roof, constructed of brick and stone, is groined; and the internal fittings are good and elaborate. The building of the church cost upwards of nine thousand pounds.

St. Saviour's Church, St. George's Square, was built in the year 1864 from the designs of Mr. Thomas Cundy. The Decorated style of Gothic has been adopted, and its elegant tower and spire form a striking object as seen from the River Thames.

VICTORIA RAILWAY STATION.

So large an area of ground in Pimlico is devoted to the buildings and railways attached to the Victoria Railway Station that a few lines may be very properly devoted to an account of the chief points in its history.

The Victoria Station and Pimlico Railway, or as it was originally called, the Victoria Company, with a capital of £676,000, having acquired a plot of ground in Pimlico, about eleven acres in extent, constructed the railway bridge across the Thames, the railway, and a temporary station, and the line was opened for the Brighton Company's traffic on the 1st of October, 1860, and for the traffic of the London, Chatham and Dover Company on the 3rd of December in the same year. The Victoria Railway Bridge was built under the direction of the company's engineer, Mr. J. Fowler; and Mr. Kelk was the contractor. The contract for the permanent railway station was let to Mr. Kelk also, for a sum within £105,000, which the Victoria Station Company undertook to provide, and the new permanent buildings were so far ready by August, 1862, that the London, Chatham and Dover had taken possession of their booking-offices and platforms. The land was, and still is, the freehold of the Victoria Station and Pimlico Railway Company, and is let on lease to the other railway companies.

Victoria Station occupies the old site of the basin of the Grosvenor Canal, and when first constructed was considered to be a great boon to the inhabitants of the north and west districts and suburbs of London, besides affording an entirely new line to the districts around Balham and Streatham Hill. As originally constructed, Victoria Station possessed 10,400 square yards of departure platform, and 4,450 of arrival platform. It was mainly designed for the accommodation of the line of the Brighton Company, but it was also calculated to accommodate the traffic of the Chatham and Dover, Great Western, and London and North Western Companies. It was 1,000 feet long, and its extreme width was 480 feet.

So popular did the new line soon become, that in 1863 a Bill for widening the lines of the Brighton and Chatham Companies passed both Houses of Parliament.

The works of the Metropolitan District Railway were commenced in 1865, and the portion of the line between South Kensington and Westminster Bridge, including the new underground station at Victoria, was opened on the 24th of December, 1868.

As in the case of some other London termini, Victoria Station has a large hotel attached to it, called, in allusion to the family who possess so much property all around it, "The Grosvenor Hotel." It is a building of vast extent, being 262 feet long, 75 feet deep, and 150 feet high to the top of the roof. The exterior is elaborately decorated. The spandrels on the first floor are in Portland stone, and the carvings represent her Majesty the Queen, the Prince Consort, Humbolt, Lord Palmerston, Lord Derby, Lord John Russell, and others. At the side façades are representations of the four quarters of the globe; and colossal festoons of flowers are suspended between the ground-floor windows. On the ground-floor are a spacious hall, enriched with scagliola columns, and reaching to the second floor corridor; dining, drawing, and sitting rooms; the principal coffee-room; and a smoking-room. The whole building contains upwards of three hundred rooms, and 1,500 feet of stone corridors traverse the centre of the building on its various floors from end to end. This splendid hotel, which was designed by Mr. J. T. Knowles, architect, cost considerably more than one hundred thousand pounds.

Among the various modern buildings in the Belgravia and Pimlico

district mention must be made of the gigantic buildings belonging to the Western Pumping Station, which were finished in 1874-5, completing the main-drainage system of the metropolis. The foundation-stone of the structure was laid in 1873, and the works cost £183,000. This station provides pumping power to lift the sewage and part of the rainfall contributed by the district, together estimated at 38,000 gallons per minute, a height of eighteen feet in the Low Level Sewer, which extends from Pimlico to the Abbey Mills Pumping Station, near Barking, in Essex. The requisite power is obtained from four high-pressure condensing beam-engines of an aggregate of 360 horse-power.

The buildings belonging to this station are very extensive, and the chimney shaft, nearly two-hundred feet in height, is square, and its sides are relieved by three recessed panels, arched over a short distance below the entablature which surmounts the shaft.

In the case of several of the more recent large buildings in the districts of Mayfair and Belgravia, use has been made of terra-cotta—a material peculiarly pleasing to the eye, and in every way suitable to the ornamentation with which it is very frequently enriched.

ERRATUM.

Page 16, line 33, for "Hick's Hill," *read* "Hick's Hall."

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